

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF
ST CHAD, ST MARY IN THE BAUM AND ST EDMUND
ROCHDALE

N E W S

(Please take one and pass it on)



Sunday 12 January 2020

Welcome
to our Church

on Sunday 12 January



Baptism of Jesus

The Archdeacon's Visitation
to St Chad's will be on Wednesday 10 June at 7 30 pm.

(Put the date in your diary)

All sidespeople should attend please.

Everyone is welcome to join in this special and motivating occasion.

Come and meet the new Archdeacon of Rochdale,
the Venerable David Sharples.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE TO BE BAPTISED

at St Chad's on 26 January

Evie Grace ▫ Noah Anthony ▫ Koda Jack



A REMINDER ...

please bring in your
Christingle collection boxes
for The Children's Society
by the end of January.

Thank you.



Please write your
PRAYER REQUESTS
on the form provided



Would you be willing to help support destitute asylum seekers in Rochdale ?

A number of those who have travelled long distances, often making dangerous journeys, find themselves homeless and without any money. Working with other churches, the Red Cross, the Council, the Council of Mosques and others we have established a project to offer a home to the homeless and provide a warm welcome.

But we need your help, and if you would like to help then please talk to the vicar.

The first **Grassroots Gathering** in Rochdale will be held on **Wednesday 15 January at 10 am – 12 noon** in St Chad's Church, Sparrow Hill.

Action Together are facilitating this session and we are offering a place and space for local voluntary, community, faith and social enterprises in Rochdale to network, make new connections and strengthen existing relationships in the voluntary sector.

<https://www.actiontogether.org.uk/>

PCC Meetings

St Mary's 2 pm and St Chad's 7.30 pm at the vicarage on **20 January**.

St Chad's Fold Trust

Meeting of the trustees will be on **Sunday 2 February** after the service.

St Chad's Bells Sub Group

Meets **Monday 10 February**, 7.30 pm at the vicarage.

Bush fires in Australia ... but still no significant changes by government here or in most developed nations. What are we leaving for our children ?

Christian Climate Action Rochdale and friends will meet at the vicarage on **Thursday 16 January** at 10.30 am.

Also please collect a free copy of the extinction rebellion newsletter from Church.

Holocaust Memorial Day

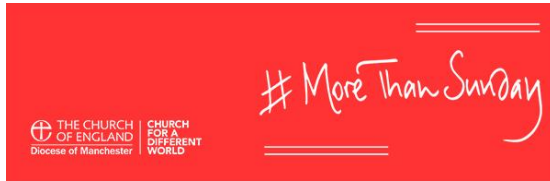
This year's Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration will be on **Thursday 30 January** at the Coach House, Littleborough.

We shall meet in the Coach House at 6.15 pm and walk across to the Memorial Gardens for a short rededication of the Stone, then return to the Coach House for the main commemoration event.

All welcome to this moving and encouraging event.

St Mary in the Baum: A conversation with Bishop Mark

St Mary's congregation are invited to stay after the service on Sunday 19 January for a conversation with the Bishop of Middleton.



This month's reflection has been written by *The Rev'd Steven Hilton* and is shared with you in this week's newsletter.

REFLECTION

Many of us look to the Beatitudes when we want to understand the heart of Jesus' teaching. It is the manifesto of our faith. And they turn everything upside down. Often quite uncomfortably.

Walking in Jesus' footsteps is a lifelong challenge. And for that lifelong challenge, perhaps we might try to understand afresh something about what mercy might mean in order to uncover a Christian understanding of justice.

Can you think of a time when you have received mercy? Perhaps from a loved one, or a friend, or when you have experienced the loving kindness of God – the compassion of Jesus – falling on you. If you have experienced mercy, unbounded forgiveness, seen the face of God in a stranger, then you have started to see justice as God does.

For almost ten years, I've volunteered as a magistrate in the criminal courts - first in Westminster and now in Manchester. The magistrates' courts are the first courts that defendants come to after they have been charged, sometimes directly from the police station.

Being both a clergyperson and a magistrate is complicated. On the one hand, my judicial role forces me to make regular judgements, within the guidelines, about guilt and innocence, and about sentences for crimes. On the other hand, as a Christian, we are told to leave judgement up to God. I hope I am a merciful person both as a Christian and magistrate. Exercising mercy in the world does not mean that there is no consequence for our actions. What we do has consequences for ourselves, our relationships, and the environment in which we live.

Exercising mercy, from God's standpoint, is different. Increasingly I see that the mercy of God is the justice of God. God's forgiveness and grace is God's mercy *and* God's justice, it seems to me.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Matthew 5:7

This is because the cross is an act of world-shattering mercy which entirely challenges our own understanding of what justice looks like. It is an act of mercy that God comes to be one of us, to bind our wounds, and make us whole. This is what we are to do as cross-shaped disciples. What can you do to exercise mercy in your day-to-day life in order to seek justice as God sees it?

Mercy in action means not walking by on the other side when we see a homeless person. Why not take them a hot drink and spend 30 seconds having a natter?

Mercy in action means checking in on your neighbours when the weather gets cold.

Mercy in action means offering love without stopping to ask whether someone deserves it, including ourselves.

Every one of us is God's child. And if we look around with eyes of mercy, act with hands of mercy, we will see each other as God sees us. We cannot talk of justice if we don't see, live and act in the world with eyes of mercy. For that is how God sees me, and you.

The Rev'd Steven Hilton

The journey continues ...

YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP #morethanSunday/

A Year of Discipleship: encouraging us all to live out our faith every day of the week - not just on Sundays!

The theme for January is JUSTICE

Sign up to **#MoreThanSunday** to receive a **monthly email** outlining a **theme** and **suggested actions** for that month, along with a **podcast** featuring local people who have particular insight to share.

You can join the online community, sharing your journey on Twitter and Instagram using the hashtag **#MoreThanSunday** and meeting fellow disciples in the diocese-wide Facebook group.

Use this link to sign up

to the email: www.manchester.anglican.org/more-than-Sunday/

There's also a short film to watch - you may see people and places you recognise!!!

The themes for each month are:

July - Doubt ▫ **Aug - Worship** ▫ **Sept - Creation** ▫ **Oct - Forgiveness**

Nov - Friendship ▫ **Dec - Waiting** ▫ **Jan - Justice** ▫ **Feb - Generations**

March - Generosity ▫ **April - Witness** ▫ **May - Community** ▫ **June - Invitation**

MUSIC AND CHORAL EVENTS AT ST CHAD'S

2020 Saturday Lunchtime concerts - 12 noon till 1 pm

February 15

Emyr Lloyd Jones - Baritone (RNCM)

SONGS with LUTE & GUITAR

Works by Angelo Notari & John Dowland
and also by Mozart (from Don Giovanni),

Schumann, Schubert and George Butterworth

Refreshments available from 11.20 am and included
in admission price of **£5.50**, payable on the door



March 28

Celebrity Concert by the (amazing) violinist

Savva Zverev

who will be accompanied by

new Junior Fellow in Accompaniment

Sid Ramchander

Refreshments available from 11.20 am and included
in admission price of **£5.50**, payable on the door



Saturday Lunchtime Concerts also arranged for:

March 7, April 25, May 16,

June 6 and June 27

Awaiting final details - watch this space!!!

CHORAL EVENSONG (BCP)

Sunday 22 March at 6.30 pm with Canon Roger Hill

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - ST CHAD'S

Every Friday - Place of Welcome - 10.30 am - 12 noon

Wed 15 Jan - Grassroots Gathering, 10 am – 12 noon

Mon 20 Jan - St Chad's PCC, 7.30 pm at the Vicarage

Sun 2 Feb - St Chad's Fold Trust, meeting of trustees after morning service

Mon 10 Feb - St Chad's Bells Sub Group meeting, 7.30 pm at the vicarage

Mon 17 Feb - St Chad's PCC, 7.30 pm at the Vicarage

Sun 15 Mar - St Chad's PCC - APCM after the morning service

Sun 22 Mar - Choral Evensong, 6.30 pm, Canon Roger Hill



ROCHDALE PARISH CHURCH
SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST 2020 3pm
SCOTT BROTHERS DUO
(Jonathan & Tom Scott)
Celebrity Piano Duet Recital

"I don't think I've ever met two people so talented as the Scott Brothers ..."
MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS

TICKETS: £10 available on door (includes tea/coffee & cakes)
or in advance: 01706 639162 j.midgley448@btinternet.com
St. Chad's Parish Church
Sparrow Hill, Rochdale, OL16 1QT
www.scottbrothersduo.com

The Annual Concert with
SCOTT BROTHERS DUO
(Jonathan & Tom Scott)
Celebrity Piano Duet Recital

will be on
Saturday 8 August
at 3 pm

Limited number of Disabled access parking places in Church yard

For further information email j.midgley448@btinternet.com

or phone 01706 639162

400 Hundred Years of the King James Bible

400 years ago, the best-selling book in history was published - the 'King James' or 'Authorised' version of the Bible.

It wasn't the first English Bible – in fact there were two officially 'authorised' translations published in 1539 and 1568.

The 1611 Bible, though it was commissioned by the King, was never actually 'Authorised' in any official way – only by the strength of public popularity.

One sign of its popularity and quality is that while from 1534-1611 there were 8 published translations of the Bible into English, after the King James Version was published, the next significant English-language Bible didn't appear until the Revised version was published in 1885 – 274 years later!

Many writers, Christian and atheist, have celebrated this anniversary, as the King James Bible is one of the greatest influences on our language.

It's given us lots of familiar phrases, and when it's read aloud well it still has tremendous power and dignity.

Some very traditional churches still insist on using it as the only 'proper' Bible, though most recognise that it's no longer appropriate for everyday use.

That's not just because the language is old-fashioned; it's more to do with the fact that some words have changed their meaning in the last 400 years, and also that since 1611 we've discovered earlier and better manuscripts of the Bible in the original Hebrew and Greek, so that we now know there are a few places where the text which was translated in 1611 isn't what was originally written.

But that leaves us with the question of why this book was and still is so important.

Less than a century earlier it had been dangerous even to own a Bible in English, let alone to print one!

The Bible was considered such a dangerous document that only those authorised by the church and educated in Latin were allowed to read it for themselves. Everyone else had to rely on what the local priest told them the Bible said.

Archbishop Cranmer (who wrote that other pillar of English Christianity, the Book of Common Prayer) and the other reformers who led the split of the Church of England from Rome believed it was vital to freedom and healthy Christian faith that

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - ST MARY IN THE BAUM

Red Cross Hub: 10 am - 3 pm each Monday

Caring and Sharing Drop-in: Tuesday 10.30 am - 12.30 pm (approx)

Sun 19 Jan- a conversation with Bishop Mark after service

Mon 20 Jan - St Mary's PCC 2 pm

Mon 17 Feb - St Mary's PCC 2 pm

Sun 29 Mar - St Mary's PCC APCM after the morning service

MUSIC AT ST MARY IN THE BAUM

Every Wednesday 12.30 to 1.30 pm **Admission £5**

Refreshments available from 11.30 am

St Mary's Gate/Toad Lane, Rochdale OL16 1DZ

January

- 15 **Lucy Farrimond** mezzo soprano (RNCM) and
Duncan Glenday piano (RNCM & Manchester University)
- 22 **Alice Roberts** harp (RNCM)
- 29 **Giulia Contaldo** piano (Italy, Vienna & RNCM)

February

- 5 **Margaret Ferguson** soprano (Ghana, Poland & RNCM)

We have received this on our Facebook page:

Dear Sir, Please could you send my greetings to all of your congregation who may remember me from the concerts that Dr Joe Dawson arranged for me to perform at your church over the early 2000s as 1 of his first private pupils, often with David Appleton as my accompanist. My name is Julie Duffy and I am sending you this text because Dr Joe Dawson is going to be turning 70 yrs old on the 13th of January so it would be nice to see the town and church show their appreciation for all he has done for the publicity and marketing of both the town, and the music both inspired by God and by man. Thanks and God bless you for all your service to the people of the town. Love Julie Duffy and Family, now in Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, Northern Ireland. xxxx

So, on behalf of everyone at both churches we would like to thank Dr Joe Dawson for his contribution to music here in Rochdale and also send him our best wishes for a very happy 70th birthday.

... continued from page 8

people should be able to read God's word for themselves, and made sure that Bibles in English were available in every church, with the doors open all day so they could be consulted by anyone.

The King James Version was an attempt to revise the work of earlier scholars, checking it for accuracy against the Greek and Hebrew texts then available and making the language as simple as possible.

Part of the power of the book is that the editors deliberately used short words in everyday use whenever possible. They described their aim as being "to deliver God's book unto God's people in a tongue which they could understand."

That simplicity gives it a lasting beauty, but also makes it ironic that many people prefer it to good modern versions because it's 'more dignified'. I suspect that the editors would have been furious!

Today we have more different translations of the Bible than every before.

There were none in 274 years after 1611, but I know of 24 from the last 50 years alone.

They all try to strike different balances of accuracy, readability and dignity. We're so used to being able to read the Bible for ourselves that we can easily take it for granted.

But imagine being one of the first generation allowed to do so – queuing up to look something up in the Bible chained to a desk in church, or carrying a precious Bible of your own, hot from the press.

Why not take some time this year to read one of the gospels, first in a good modern translation (we use the New Revised Standard Version in Church) and then in the King James version.

Appreciate both for what they are, and listen to God in words ancient and modern.

The Rev'd Nick Watson

(article free to use, from www.parishwindow.co.uk)



LGBT carers' group

The borough of Rochdale's first LGBT group for carers is launching in January 2020.

If you are LGBT and you care for someone, feel free to come along.

The group provides the chance to socialise and receive information and advice.

Tuesday 14 January, 10 am - 12 noon

Tuesday 4 February, 10 am - 12 noon

Tuesday 3 March, 10 am - 12 noon

St George's Hall, Bury Road, Rochdale, OL11 4ED

SERVICES OF WORSHIP

St Chad's

Sundays at 11 am

Sung Eucharist (Common Worship)

Matins at 11 am on 2nd Sunday of month

3 pm Asian Christian Fellowship

St Mary in the Baum

Sundays at 9.30 am Sung Eucharist

(BCP/Common Worship Order Two)

Wednesdays

Holy Communion (BCP) at 10 am

CONTACT INFO

Vicar: The Rev'd Mark Coleman

01706 632809 or 0779 520 2955 hellomarkcoleman@gmail.com

Reader: Wendy Cocks 0774 772 4804

Asian Fellowship: Elizabeth Julius 0793 184 6942 (please text)

Priest in Charge at Healey, Hamer and Belfield:

Rev'd Gill Barnett 0161 971 6318

Churchwardens:

St Chad's: Paul Bollington 0756 698 3798, Alan Wild 0790 583 7847

St Mary in the Baum: positions vacant

www.rochdaleparishchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/rochdaleparishchurches

To book a Wedding or Christening at St Chad's or St Mary in the Baum
please come to church on a Sunday to make a booking
or phone the vicar to make arrangements.

Please send news, notices or items of interest for the newsletter to:

stchadsrochdale@gmail.com