

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

NEWS

(Please take one and pass it on)



Sunday 19 July 2020



Sixth Sunday after Trinity

on Sunday 19 July 2020

Welcome - it's good to see you all again.

This week's service will be led by Revd Canon Roger Hill.

There are signs throughout the church to remind you about the necessary social distancing and Church of England guidelines.

Today, music but no singing, also no refreshments after the service.

Today's readings:

Isaiah 44.6-8 Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43



Launched by the Archbishop of Canterbury

when our church buildings were closed because of Coronavirus, this free national phone line brings worship and prayer into people's homes.

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line, **available 24 hours a day**.

Please publicise the phone line to people you know, especially to those who may not have access to the internet and live streamed services.

STAY WELL, STAY SAFE



If you missed the premiere it's available to watch via this link:

<https://youtu.be/OHRdkKAjHhU>

20 July 2020 is the 51st anniversary of the first moon landing, and many of us reading this newsletter will recall watching this incredible event on television.

The astronauts on the Apollo 11 mission were Michael Collins, pilot of the command module *Columbia* who remained alone in lunar orbit until the lunar module *Eagle* and its crew returned to link up ready for the return journey to earth, along with Neil Armstrong and Edward "Buzz" Aldrin who travelled down to the moon's surface in *Eagle* to undertake their moon walk.

The mission generated considerable interest, but an executive decision had been made to omit one event from the timeline as relayed to the world. (Astronauts on the Apollo 8 mission had read from Genesis on Christmas Eve 1968 as they were orbiting the moon, resulting in the O'Hair law suit, subsequently dismissed, so there was no wish to fuel any ongoing debate regarding religion on the moon.)

In the rest period between *Eagle* landing on the moon and Neil Armstrong taking that first famous step out from the lunar module, "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind", Buzz Aldrin quietly took the bread and wine he'd kept in his "personal-preference kit", saved from a communion service at Webster Presbyterian church in Texas, where he was a church elder, just hours before leaving for Cape Kennedy to embark on this famous journey, and took communion. He silently read John 15.5, Neil Armstrong observed but did not take part. (On the journey back to earth Aldrin read Psalm 8: 3,4.)

It's interesting to reflect on the fact that the very first food and drink consumed on the moon's surface was not dehydrated, rehydrated "space food" but the bread and wine consumed by Aldrin during his historic communion in 1969.

Linda G.

You are invited to take part
in the 2020 St Chad's

St Swithun's Challenge

It's easy to do ...
no marathon running or abseiling required
... just sign up to pledge a donation
of between 10p - £1 for each day it rains
between St Swithun's Day on 15 July and 23 August.

Tick off the rainy days on your personal
St Swithun's Challenge calendar then calculate the
amount due and give in your donation
by the end of August.

Thank you for your support.



***St Swithun's day if thou dost rain
For forty days it will remain
St Swithun's day if thou be fair
For forty days 'twill rain na mair***

My personal St Swithun's Challenge Calendar

I pledge to donate*

.....

to St Chad's for each day
it rains for the 40 days from
St Swithun's Day, 15 July.

Tick off the rainy days
on the calendar and then give in
your donation after 23 August.

* Between 10p - £1 please . . . but
do not put the amount on the
signing-up form.

Thank you for your support.

JULY		28		10	
15		29		11	
16		30		12	
17		31		13	
18		AUGUST		14	
19		1		15	
20		2		16	
21		3		17	
22		4		18	
23		5		19	
24		6		20	
25		7		21	
26		8		22	
27		9		23	

Please tear off this form and then place in the box provided.

I will be taking part in the St Chad's 2020 St Swithun's Challenge.

Name:

Thank you for your support.

The second instalment of a six part series, shared from parishwindow.co.uk

Why is my Bible different from yours?

Part 2 - The years of the Church Fathers

The books that actually make up the Old and New Testament were fairly well agreed if not formally confirmed early in the Church's history. Indeed it is possible to argue that the books of the Old Testament had been set since the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament that was first used several centuries before Jesus. It was certainly clear by the time of Jesus which books were in the Bible and which were not, and when the Jews closed their scriptures after the fall of Jerusalem in 90 AD they were only recognising the status quo. What you would not recognise, however, is the order of the books; to give two examples, 1 and 2 Kings were usually listed as one book and Jeremiah would include Lamentations.

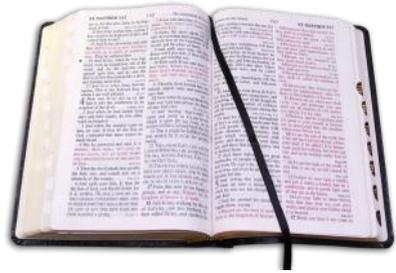
The New Testament books quickly separated out into those that were valued and those that were not. One person whose evidence is significant in this is the Bishop of Lyons Irenaeus. Irenaeus had been the student of Polycarp who himself had been a student of St John. His writings confirmed many of the present New Testament books were known and valued as important. When the Council of Hippo in 393 AD confirmed the twenty seven books as we know them "it did not confer on them any authority they did not already possess."

The one area of significant difference is in the books which we refer to as the Apocrypha. These 15 books are mentioned in article 6 of the thirty nine articles of the Church of England as "read (by the church) for example of life and instruction of manners but yet doth it not apply them to establish any doctrine."

The books were included in the Septuagint and as the Greek version of the Old Testament became the Old Testament of choice by many early Christians especially those who spoke Greek then the books of the Apocrypha gained status by association.

One of the key early translations was to translate the texts into Latin; this was done in its final form by Jerome between 366 and 384. I say final form because many had done their own translation before that but Jerome's authorised as it was by a Bishop of the church soon gained in its authority.

Jerome translated the New Testament from the Greek and also the Old Testament he took from the Septuagint as well and thus the Books of the Apocrypha were given again a higher status by association. It was during the time of the reformation that the issue was revisited. The Church of Rome held them canonical, the Lutheran and Anglican Church held them as important. Other reformed churches gave them no value above that of any other religious books. The first edition of the Authorised Version contained the Apocrypha but it was ruled inappropriate by the Parliament of 1644.



The Septuagint was also responsible for one other set of differences; Hebrews 1v6 says “let all the Angels of God worship Him” which is a quote from Deuteronomy 32v43 yet if you turn to the verse in Deuteronomy it is not there. That is because the translators used the Hebrew text and the writer of Hebrews quoted the Septuagint.

There are two other points to make in this session, firstly the Latin version or the Vulgate as it became known demonstrates the difference between a primary translation and a secondary one. In the New Testament it was a primary translation because it translated from the Greek. In the Old Testament it is a secondary translation because although it again translated from the Greek the Old Testament as we have seen was originally written in Hebrew.

The second is that the Greek of the Septuagint had given a rich meaning to many words which were then used in the New Testament to quote FF Bruce my old Professor “it is important to understand the New Testament words for atonement, sacrifice forgiveness not in their Greek pagan sense but in the sense they were used in the Septuagint” (Books and the Parchment FF Bruce)

As the power of the Roman church grew and Latin became the dominant language of the church the position of the Vulgate was unchallenged in the West. It would be many centuries before this position would change

K V Beaumont

BA Biblical Studies University of Manchester 1980

SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Sunday Holy Communion at 11 am
at **St Chad's** as from Sunday 12 July 2020.

All necessary social distancing and Church of England guidelines
are being followed.

Music but no singing, no after-service refreshments and restricted seating.
No other services or groups until further notice.

(Awaiting details of services for St Mary in the Baum.)

Your continuing support by means other than the envelope scheme will be
appreciated and there are a number of ways you can help:

- Transfer to a monthly **Standing Order** - there's a form available for download on
the website's news page
 - Use **online/internet banking** by transferring from your account to:
A/c name: Rochdale Parish Church Sort code: 05-07-22 A/c number: 24990011
 - Pay by **cheque** and send to: Rochdale Parish Church, c/o 17 Dale View,
Littleborough, OL15 0BP
 - Continue to use your envelopes and save for future collection.
- Whichever option you chose, confidentiality will be maintained.
-

St Chad's and St Mary in the Baum are currently in interregnum.

For all enquiries relating to St Chad's:
please contact the Churchwardens

Mr P Bollington 0756 698 3798 or Mr A Wild 0790 583 7847
Bookings: Jill Midgley 01706 639162

For all enquiries relating to St Mary in the Baum:
please contact Ann Sutcliffe 01706 640369

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Please send news, notices or items of interest for the newsletter to:
stchadsrochdale@mail.com