



June 2022
THE DIARY OF ST MARY'S
DROYLSDEN

***A welcoming all-age community growing
and sharing God's love***

Associate Minister

Reverend Nancy Alexander

371 9667

Church Wardens

Pat Catterall

370 0039

Beth Cutler

285 1472

*“Rejoice in hope, be patient in
tribulation, be constant in prayer”
ROMANS 12:12*

For the time-being, refreshments will continue to be available in the Emmaus Room after the service.

Any changes and updates will be announced on the church website and where possible social media

June Services



5th June 10.30am Platinum Jubilee Thanksgiving Service

12th June 10.30am Holy Communion

12.30pm 12.30 Baptisms

19th June 10.30am Fathers' Day Morning Worship

26th June 10.30am Holy Communion

Readings for June

5th June: Psalm 121 and Luke 22 24-30; 12th June: Proverbs 8 1-4, 22-31 and John 16 12-15; 19th June: 1 Kings 19 1-4 (5-7), 8-15a and Luke 8 26-39; 26th June 2 Kings 2 1-2, 6-14 and Luke 9 51-62

Light at the End of the Tunnel

Over four years into our Vacancy – the period without a Vicar - and we heard last month that the advertisement is out there! The applications close 30th June and interviews sometime in July. Whilst we are keen to get a new Vicar as soon as possible, clearly the most important thing is to get the right person. We must now pray that God inspires the right person to apply and God willing that person could be in post later this year.

It has been refreshing to see many of our Parishioners returning with the relaxation of the rules for COVID and we are now able to re- introduce our sides people and welcome team on Sunday mornings which will take the pressure off Beth and Pat, our Wardens. One thing this prolonged vacancy has done is to see different people leading worship in various ways. Initially, Sue and to a lesser extent myself, have been more involved in Parish Ministry, Sue leading School services and overseeing the important funeral ministry and baptisms. The experience of which she has now taken with her to her new Parish. Since Sue left us, our Wardens and Authorised Lay Ministers have adeptly stepped in to ensure services have been maintained and the Church life has continued. When Holy Communion has not been available due to my duties at the hospital and not having a Priest available, they have rallied to ensure worship services have been maintained.

We have just passed through the Easter season and have entered into the season of Pentecost. The great celebration of Jesus conquering death and rising to new life and all that that means for us as children of God. The theme of new life is always emphasised in an earthly sense at this time of year also, as we go through spring and move into summer with so much new growth and new birth around us in God's creation.

As we consider Jesus' gift of new life and a new future through His work on the Cross, and as we look towards new growth and new life in the physical world it's a great opportunity to take stock of our own personal spiritual development - to see which areas need to have new life breathed into them through the power of the Holy Spirit. Do we need to spend a bit more of our prayer time listening for what God might be trying to say to us? I know I do, as I often get caught up in the busyness of my work life that I forget to spend time with God in a quality way. Perhaps to spend more time in reading the bible or praying – simply spending more time with Him. Perhaps even, God wants us to be involved in a new area or ministry within the life of our church.

As we pray for the appointment of our new Vicar and for the new chapter that it will bring in the life of St Mary's, let us also pray for ourselves that, in this time of post Easter new life, God may each day fill us anew with His Holy Spirit – that we may be channels of His love and grace to others.

Blessings
Rev Nancy

600th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST MARY THE BLESSED VIRGIN, ST GEORGE AND ST DENYS 1421 – 2021

Or as you and I know it: Manchester Cathedral.

Roy and I were privileged to have been invited to the special service held on 5 May to celebrate this special anniversary.

The Cathedral and Collegiate Church of St Mary, St Denys and St George is in the heart of the City of Manchester. The building is the old mediaeval Parish Church of Manchester. King Henry V first granted it Collegiate status in 1421 and it became Manchester's Cathedral on the creation of the Diocese of Manchester in 1847. It is believed that there has been a church on or near this site for over a thousand years. The service was due to take place in May 2021. However, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, it had to be postponed to May 2022.

The service included music from the new, magnificent organ, hymns - Praise my soul the King of Heaven, , Now thank we all our God and All people that on earth do dwell – all sung with great gusto.

The choir sang Psalm 122 and an adaptation of Psalm 46

The Most Rev'd and Rt. Hon. Stephen Cottrell Archbishop of York was the guest preacher at the service. His first visit to Manchester. .He remarked that as he had begun to plan his talk he had turned to the bible readings of the day. However, he noted that throughout the service plan there were references to bees. Not understanding the relevance of the bee to Manchester he had 'googled' it. He learned that the bee is the symbol of Manchester, and the city of industry is rightly proud of its link with the hard-working insect. In 1842, the early city fathers had to decide on a coat of arms that would tell the world who we were. They included a globe with seven bees to show how we worked and traded across the seven seas. The Manchester bee was born of industry. Manchester's bee is a worker bee, reflecting a city made by the workers; made by the people, not a city that has grown from royal patronage or easy natural resources. Mancunians have worked hard to make this place thrive.

Reflecting on the produce of bees the Archbishop commented that the number of times 'milk and honey' were included in the bible was over 20. Having considered the many references he deduced that Manchester was indeed 'paradise' – a land flowing with milk and honey. The congregation laughed as I don't think many of us think of Manchester that way but perhaps looking at our many blessings perhaps, we should!

The service included greetings to the church from many faiths and cultures and reminded us of what a diverse community we are.

The poet in residence at the cathedral Andrew Rudd had written a special poem for the commemoration and this he read to a hushed congregation.

Standing for Six Hundred Years

Cathedral, you stand
for all that is good,
for peace and welcome.

You stand for Manchester:
six centuries of struggle
to become a city of hope.

You will not stand for terror,
bigotry, or bullying. You take
a stand for compassion.

You stand for choristers
to take hold of the air
and braid it into harmony.
You stand, a lofty nest
where angels sing and play.

You stand for bees to bring
sweetness to your crown.

You stand for the passing stranger,
who keeps all these things
in his camera.

You stand for the pilgrim
to turn aside from shopping, set down
her carrier bags and breathe.
You stand for the one who lights
a candle, whose tears will never
put it out.



Meeting The Queen

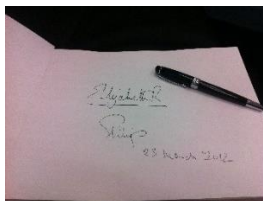
I was fortunate enough to be involved in the coordination of Her Majesty's visit to Manchester in March 2012 for her Diamond Jubilee. The visit was organised in conjunction with the Deputy Lieutenant's Office who helped steer us through the complicated protocols for meeting The Queen. Here are a few little snippets:

- You must only speak to her Majesty if she speaks to you first.
- You must call her 'Your Majesty' the first time you speak to her and 'Ma'am (to rhyme with jam!) thereafter.
- Ladies should curtsy and men bow upon meeting Her Majesty.

We had to set aside a toilet for the personal use of Her Majesty – we allocated one of our disabled toilets for the purpose and we had to add a comfortable armchair in there for the use of her Lady in Waiting and The Queen will only use soap that has been unused previously and still in its packaging.

Her Majesty's favourite tippie is gin and Dubonnet (which is a wine-based aperitif) – it was also The Queen Mother's drink of choice. Consequently, we bought in a couple of bottles for the visit. During her visit, she drank three over lunch! Incidentally, I like gin, but it is disgusting with dubonnet – our team had a little try once the visit was over!

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were due to sign our visitor's book once they'd unveiled our new plaque. We purchased a brand new fountain pen (it wasn't a Mont Blanc but it was a well-known brand) for the occasion but we were advised that Prince Philip had a habit of taking pens with him once he'd used them – hence we didn't buy a Mont Blanc! Prince Philip actually wandered off after the unveiling; I saw the Queen roll her eyes conspiratorially to my boss and then call him back in order to sign the visitors' book!



It was wonderful to be involved with the visit and to meet Her Majesty; not only as our longest serving monarch but also as the head of our church.

Charlotte



I have always been a Royalist and enjoy the pomp and ceremony at all the royal occasions. I have had the honour of seeing Her Majesty on several occasions over the years.

I remember as a child mum and dad took the family to London to view the sights on numerous occasions. A highlight was always Trooping the Colour. We arrived on The Mall early to get a good vantage point. The guards were already there evenly spaced out or so we thought. An officer came down and realigned the guards, this of course happened several times and I'm sure they were back where they started by the end. The bands, the horses, all the military personnel were splendid and then her Majesty rode into sight.....of course riding side saddle in those days. A long tiring day for us but also for the Queen.

I was lucky enough to get tickets for the Queen's Golden Jubilee concert at Buckingham Palace in 2002. Emma (a treat for her 21st birthday) and I went to the concert. Her Majesty and other members of the Royal Family were there but the highlight has to be Brian May playing the National Anthem on his guitar from the top of Buckingham Palace. The picnic we got wasn't bad either.

When I was Guide Commissioner, I was privileged to attend a garden party in Oldham which her Majesty attended. My uniform had never looked so spick and span.

Her Majesty has devoted her life to serving the country and commonwealth. Long may she reign over us. Thank you, Ma'am.

Chris Hulme



I have never actually met Her Majesty, but when I was still a Brownie (although almost a Guide), she and Prince Philip visited my home town, Douglas in the Isle of Man. It must have been 1953 or 1953, and the

royal couple were touring various outposts if the Empire. She is recognised as Queen in the Isle of Man, but her actual title is “Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth – Lord of Man”.

They were visiting our local park for us all to be able o see them. We were all lined up in our various uniforms behind ropes, waiting for their open topped vehicle to pass by. We waited for what seemed like days, when the procession came into view. It was too much for us – we broke ranks and ran towards her, waving our Union flags and cheering much to the horror of our leaders!

The Queen seemed quite amused and smiled down at us and waved. I think she might have still been Princess Elizabeth at the time. We were thrilled and didn't mind the telling off we got from our leaders!

Long live the Queen!

Jill

PS I made my Brownie Promise to King George VI and my Guide Promise to Queen Elizabeth II



The next Mothers' Union Meeting is on Tuesday 7th
June at 7.30pm

In the Emmaus Room and will be
A Platinum Jubilee Celebration

Everyone Welcome



For more information about the Mothers' Union Please speak to either
Joanne Roberts or Mildred Booth



Did You Know?

The first ever cordless phone was created by God. He named It
“Prayer!.... It never loses its signal, and you never have to recharge it.
Use it anywhere!



Disasters Emergency Committee Update



This was received at the beginning of May. Note this includes the UK Government match of first £25 million. Money is distributed to the following 15 DEC Member Charities - Action Against Hunger, Action Aid, Age International, British Red Cross, Cafod, Care International, Christian Aid, Concern, International Rescue, Islamic Relief, Oxfam, Plan International, Save The Children, TearFund, World Vision. These charities would be giving support to the Ukraine refugees in the following countries Poland - Slovakia - Hungary - Romania - Moldova and here in the UK. It is good to see the mix of the DEC Member Charities. We would be familiar with Christian Aid, TearFund and the Red Cross. If you are interested in any others, they can be searched for on the Web. Thank God many people and organisations are helping support the refugees in so many ways

John Sporne

Finley's Scouting Adventures

As most of you know, my grandson Finley jointed Beaver Scouts just before the lockdown in 2020 and worked hard at home during all that time to gain lots of different badges.

He moved up to Cub Scouts after his birthday in February this year. Finley isn't an overly confident little boy, but he grew in confidence during his time as a Beaver Scout but found Cub Scouts a little daunting.

A few tears and lots of reassurance later it was with great pride that Dad and Gran watched him being invested as a Cub Scout at the Scout Group Annual General Meeting on 12th May.

We sat next to a man called Dave Ashton at the meeting who had been Iain's Akela 32 years previously and he remarked that it was good to witness the third generation of the Withers Family being invested into Scouting (I was a Beaver Scout Leader for about 20 years and can I also

add Derek was a Cub Scout and a Scout – Derek Holmes was his Scout Master at St Martin’s).

I posted a couple of photographs on Facebook and a friend of ours asked if the Cubs still say Dyb, Dyb, Dby, Dob, Dob, Dob. Although this seems old fashioned, I’m sure they do, doing your best is a fundamental part of life, however they are right up to date too, Finley has gained his Global Issues Activity Badge and Our World Challenge Badge.



Finley is booked on his first weekend camp in July – Iain and I are yet to be convinced he will make it through the whole weekend but watch this space. I’ve promised him I will sew all his Beaver badges on his camp blanket for then. His little brother is looking forward to starting Beaver Scouts in September (heaven help them, a different kettle of fish all together!) because he’s seen all the things his big brother has achieved.

Christine

PS Whilst I was typing this, I had my weekly phone call from Finley that he makes on his way home from Cubs, he’s going on a sleepover – one night at the Scout *Hut* “so Gran, you’ve got 9 days to sew all my badges on the blanket”! No pressure then?

ARE YOU A NIFTY KNITTER OR A CRAFTY CROCHETER!

Can you knit, or crochet and do you have some spare time and wool to create these lovely handmade hearts.



Families unable to visit their loved ones in hospital due to the Coronavirus pandemic were being given matching pairs of handmade knitted hearts to help them feel connected while having to stay apart. One to the patient and one to their family.

Visiting restrictions during the Coronavirus outbreak meant that many patients and their families were separated at the worst possible time.

Having something to touch and hold, knowing that their relative has the exact matching thing with them is very special and as restrictions are lifted, we still continue this as it has been found to help people with their distress particularly at End of Life as the heart stays with their loved one.

Donations of the handmade knitted hearts were continued throughout the pandemic but our stocks of these hearts at my hospital, Fairfield General are running very low, and we are seeking help from the public again.

The hearts should be no bigger than 10 x 10 cms. Please ensure there are pairs of hearts in matching colours, using clean yarn. The colour is your choice but brighter is better than darks. Here is a guide pattern for knitting. A knitting pattern is below but there are many free patterns available on the internet.

Love Heart

Cast on 6 sts in pink on straight 3.75mm needles. Start at the bottom tip of the heart. Row 1: p (6 sts, WS) Row 2: [k1, m1] x 2, k2, [m1, k1] x 2 (10 sts) Row 3: p (10 sts) Row 4: k2, [m1, k1] x 2, k3, [m1, k1] x 2, k1 (14 sts) Row 5: p (14 sts) Row 6: k3, [m1, k1] x 2, k5, [m1, k1]

x 2, k2 (18 sts) Row 7: p (18 sts) Row 8: k4, [m1, k1] x 2, k7, [m1, k1] x 2, k3 (22 sts) Row 9: p (22 sts) Row 10: k5, [m1, k1] x 2, k9, [m1, k1] x 2, k4 (26 sts) Row 11: p (26 sts) Row 12: k6, [m1, k1] x 2, k11, [m1, k1] x 2, k5 (30 sts) Row 13: p (30 sts) Row 14: k7, [m1, k1] x 2, k13, [m1, k1] x 2, k6 (34 sts) Row 15: p (34 sts) Row 16: k (34 sts) Row 17: p17, place the last 17 sts on a stitch holder to hold them to work later (17 sts) For rows 18 to 22 work the 17 sts on your knitting needle for the first top piece. Row 18: k (17 sts, RS) Row 19: p (17 sts, WS) Row 20: k1, k2tog, k3, ssk, k1, k2tog, k3, ssk, k1 (13 sts) Row 21: p (13 sts) Row 22: k1, k2tog, k1, ssk, k1, k2tog, k1, ssk, k1 (9 sts) Pull through to cast off. Now place the held 17 sts on your knitting needle with the WS facing you ready to purl. Row 1: p (17 sts) Rows 2 to 6: follow the heart pattern rows 18 to 22 (9 sts) Pull through to cast off. Making up: First sew the side edges of the heart top together (from the cast off sts down to row 17). Then sew the side edges together for the seam that runs down the centre back of the heart, adding stuffing as you sew. Finish by gathering the cast on sts together at the bottom of the heart.

I will collect any hearts from you on Sundays or please just leave them in the Vestry,

Many thanks
Rev Nancy

Citizen Award

I recently went to Christ Church, Denton to a service where a very special lady, Miss May Trill, was given a Citizen Award for over 70yrs dedication

to Girl Guiding.

Andrew Gwynne, Member of Parliament for Denton and Audenshaw, presented Miss Trill with the Citizen Award for her dedication in Denton and Manchester County Guides, he said it was one of the most well deserved awards given to someone who loved helping girls to become good citizens and have fun along the way.

Miss Trill made her Promise as a 7 year old Brownie and still believes in it and has become stronger for it over the years.

The Promise she made was to do her duty to God, to serve The King and Country. That King was The Queen's Grandfather George V!

I have a lot to thank Miss Trill for, first as my schoolteacher, then as my Guiding mentor and now as a friend.

Rosemary



Springtime

I walked around my garden today
It was wet and not much fun
But the gardening column in my paper said
I must check what is going on.
It's alright for Mr. Titchmarsh I thought
He's an expert and good at it too,
But my lawn is all soggy and spongy
And not short of a week or two.
I continued with my inspection,
The plants in my tubs had died,
My borders are non-existent now,
The disappeared with the last full tide.
It's hard to get excited I thought,
When I see so much work to get through
Before long I will have to mow the lawn
And dig a spadeful or two
But Mother Nature is wonderful
She knows what to do
In my winter neglected garden,
She is coaxing the daffodils through.
The forsythia will soon threaten to blossom
And the buds will begin to appear
One thing for sure, she will make the grass grow
Of that we have no need to fear.
So, God is in his Heaven,
Mother Nature is making things sprout
I am blessed that I am here to watch it happen
What have I got to grumble about?

By Mavis Wright

Submitted by Ann Holland



Every day, millions of Christians risk their lives to follow Jesus. In more than 60 countries, Open Doors supports them by supplying Bibles, providing emergency relief and helping persecuted believers stand strong for the long-term. In the UK and Ireland, Open Doors helps the church to pray, give and speak out for those who share our faith but not our freedom.

Open Doors UK and Ireland funded £654,310 to provide Bibles, books and other Christian resources. Last year, Open Doors distributed over 1.8 million Bibles and Christian books in countries where such things are prohibited or difficult to obtain

“We need as many Bibles in our own languages as possible,” says Patrick*, a church leader from a Muslim background in China. “We don’t know where to find them, so please bring as many as you can. Many brothers and sisters need them!” Believers from Muslim and Buddhist backgrounds are the most persecuted Christian groups in China. Mandarin Bibles can be accessed online or in government-registered churches, but many believers surviving under the radar of the authorities don’t speak Mandarin. Bibles in minority languages are hard to find.

Despite increased security control and restrictions, Open Doors provides contextualised Christian materials in minority languages. We also support believers from Muslim backgrounds in developing their own materials.

When one believer received a Bible in his own language, his eyes brightened as if he had spotted a treasure. He held it close to his chest and said, “Thank you so much, brother! I’ve been dreaming about having

a Bible for so long!" We later heard that he gave his Bible to a friend who was very interested in reading it.

St Mary's Church, Droylsden

Coffee Morning

Saturday 4th June

9.30am – 11.00am

In the Emmaus Room



All Welcome

Proceeds to Open Doors



He Listens to Me Every time I Call To Him – Psalm 116:2

When I am lonely and need someone to talk to,

Thank you, Lord, for listening.

When I'm sad and need someone to lean on,

Thank, you Lord for listening.

When I'm worried and want to share my fears,

Thank you, Lord for listening.

When I'm nervous and need encouragement,

Thank you, Lord for listening.

When I'm confused and need help making a big decision,

Thank you, Lord for listening.

Amen

Vivian Shaw



A Royal Quiz

1. What are the names of Prince Charles' five grandchildren?
2. What are the Queen's two middle names?
3. Which British Princess had a baby named Sienna Elizabeth last year?
4. Which King became the first English monarch to voluntarily abdicate the throne?
5. How old was the Queen at the time of her coronation?
6. Where do the Royal Family traditionally spend Christmas?
7. What flower do all royal brides have in their bouquet?
8. True or false: the Queen weighs her guests when they arrive and leave at Christmas?
9. What is the name of Prince Charles' official residence?
10. Name the Queen's children from oldest to youngest
11. How long had the Queen and Prince Philip been married at the time of his death?

12. What football team do Prince William and Prince George support?
13. Which hobby did Prince Philip inspire his granddaughter Lady Louise Windsor to take up?
14. How many great-grandchildren does the Queen have?
15. True or false: the Queen is the only person in the UK who doesn't need a driving licence to drive?

Answers next month



A Platinum Jubilee Picture to Colour

PLATINUM JUBILEE

70



70

2022

eParenting.co.uk

Deadline for the diary is always the 2nd weekend of the month unless there are school holidays when articles are required as soon as possible please.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this diary, without YOU it wouldn't be possible. If you would like to contribute to future publications, please contact me by email:

christine.withers12@talktalk.net

Telephone 0161 371 8825

Who we are:

St Mary's Church Website is

www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk

Church Flowers and Bookstall - Details from Church

Mothers Union - Details from Church

St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Primary School

Head Teacher, Miss K Hampson - 370 3948

250th Manchester Scout Group

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers - 07973739041

5th Droylsden Brownie Guides - 339 0016

Rainbow Pack - 301 4251

St John's Band - 285 3583