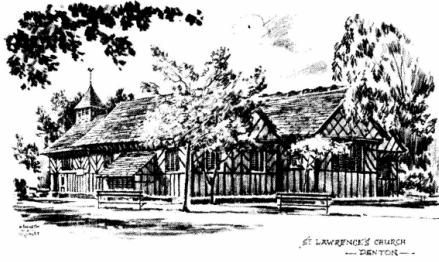


# ST LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

TOWN LANE, DENTON



Priest in Charge:  
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May 2021

## Newsletter for May 2021 – St Lawrence's Church, Denton

Dear friends in Jesus Christ,

Alleluia, Alleluia, the Lord is Risen, He is Risen Indeed. May the peace of our Risen Lord be with you in this Easter Season, Alleluia.

Faith is not an album of past memories; Jesus is not outdated. He is alive here and now in our daily situations. He is beside you each day, in every situation you are experiencing, in every trial you have to endure, in your deepest hopes and dreams. As the Lord asked the disciples to go back to Galilee to reunite with him again. Let us go back to our own Galilee, where the Risen Lord has gone ahead of us.

The Risen Lord telling us that it is always possible to begin anew, because there is always a new life that God can awaken in us in spite of all our failures and weaknesses. Let us listen to the Risen Lord, as he invites us to begin anew and never lose hope. God will surprise us because we are people of resurrection. Amen!

I trust this update finds you and your families both healthy and safe in this season of Easter.

Our Annual Parochial Council Meeting (**APCM**) will take place on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May in church, after our morning service (11.00 am).

Is God calling you to stand for election to serve and commit yourself to make our church a place of deep Christian witness? If yes, you are the Church; we, together are the Church. Jesus said to the disciples "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...I am with you always, even to the end of the age"

**(Matthew 28, 19-20)**. Official forms for the election of the church wardens & PCC members will be available in church. Please fill the appropriate forms and send them back to the Parish Priest-in-charge **Rev Jules MAMBU** prior to the election.

Vacancies are: Treasurer; Deputy Warden, Side People, Mothers Union officer; Gift Aid Secretary; Someone to do the banking (this cannot be the treasurer). At least 2 people to count the collection after each service (cannot include the treasurer); Cleaners.

6. Someone to keep on top of weeds/rubbish in churchyard.

Electoral Roll Revision:

The electoral Roll is revised annually. A notice announcing the revision of the electoral Roll will be displayed near the church main door in coming days.

### St Lawrence's Prayer

*"Loving Father, we pray your  
blessing on our Parish St Lawrence's Denton.  
Help us to have hearts open to your Holy Spirit.  
Give us the courage to follow the way of Christ.*

***Strengthen us to be faithful in prayer and loving service.  
Help us to play our part in building up your Kingdom here  
and now. We pray in the lovely name of our Risen Lord". Amen!***

Within our own community we pray for **Beryl Brown, Irene Corry, Rita Murphy, Vera Hadfield, Elsie Ashworth.**

Events taking place in May are detailed below of this newsletter. Finally, if you know of anyone who we ought to include in our prayers, or if you would like a blessing, or to share a prayer, please do contact me at the Rectory on **0161 320 4895**

Yours in Christ,  
Rev Jules MAMBU

**Forthcoming Events in May 2021**

**Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>:** - Holy Communion @ 9.45 am

- Annual Report submission deadline
- APCM Displays Notices (Face book, website & Notice board)

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May:** New marriage Law in the United Kingdom

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May:** - Holy Communion@ 9.45am

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May:** - Christian Aid Week (10-16 May 21) Collect your envelope now for Donation.

- Deanery Synod Meeting @7.30pm on Zoom

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May:** - Wedding preparation @ 6.30pm (Victoria Fenton & Richard Joy)

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May:** - Holy Communion @ 9.45am

- APCM Week of Prayer (16-23<sup>rd</sup> May)

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May:** - Manchester Diocesan Clergy Conference 2021 on Zoom (9.45 am to 3.30pm)

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** - Holy Communion @9.45 am

- **APCM** at Church after morning Service @ 11.00am.

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May:** - **PCC training Evening on Zoom (7.00 -9.20pm)**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May:** - Holy Communion @ 9.45am

**Statement from Archdeacon David Sharples**

At the request of the PCC the following written statement is provided for circulation to the congregation, members of the electoral roll and the wider parish community.

*There has been some confusion about the current role and status of Rev. Sheila Cant. Sadly this has been amplified and distorted by some social media. At the beginning of 2020, Sheila felt that it was necessary to have a period of rest and recuperation and wrote to the Bishop of Manchester to withdraw from her ministry at St Lawrence's. **To be clear, Sheila has not been dismissed.** Sheila has now requested Permission to Officiate (PTO) from the Bishop of Manchester. This means that, as is the case with all other 'PTOs' she will be able to officiate anywhere in the Diocese of Manchester at the invitation of the incumbent or priest in charge (or sequestrators in a vacant parish). Where appropriate and with the consent of the incumbent Sheila will be able to exercise a pastoral ministry with individuals and in care homes etc as well as schools ministry. She would be designated as PTO not OLM or SSM.*

*There are undoubtedly significant challenges at St Lawrence's which has experienced a period of considerable turbulence. Strong views have been expressed about the reasons for the present difficulties. However, the current plight can only be addressed by acknowledging where we are and re-committing ourselves to working together.*

David Sharples, Archdeacon of Rochdale