

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christenings

13th March Harry Francis Brown

Holy Matrimony

18th March Sophie Sadat-Ketabchi and Jeffrey Sikaitis (Blessing)
27th March Lucy Penkett and David James Kenworthy

Funerals

FLOWER ROTA

Apr 3rd Easter
Apr 10th Avril Lamond
Apr 17th Avril Lamond
Apr 24th Michael Penlington

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 14th April 2016**
Please send all copy to:

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Subscriptions
& Distribution: Peter Bean: 01625 582073

Large format copies of the magazine are available.

Wardens Write

April 2016

It has been some months since we were able to update you on the progress with finding a new incumbent for St Mary's (and St Catherine's). I am pleased to confirm that following a lot of procedural work including the preparation of our Profile, the search is now about to begin in earnest. The Patrons of St Mary's will take the lead in the next part and they are now beginning their search to find an incumbent which matches our "specification" (or Profile) as near as possible. This search includes the option to advertise locally and nationally should this be necessary. Once a number of potential candidates have been identified, interviews will take place. The Bishop of Chester, the Patrons of St Mary's and elected representatives from each of the PCCs of St Mary's and St Catherine's will all be involved to help us find the best candidate. We wish to keep things moving forward at a good speed but it is not possible to say how long this will take. We look forward to being able to update you with more news as soon as we can.

At the same time, we are very encouraged by the continuing support for the weekly services at St Mary's. Many nice comments have been shared about the range of ministers we have been fortunate to have had taking our services and the different service formats used for Mothering Sunday, Christenings and Palm Sunday have also had positive feedback. As always we welcome your comments on things you like and things you might wish were done differently – please keep supporting our services and sharing your views.

Easter is now upon us. It is the greatest festival in the Christian Church with the resurrection being right at the heart of Christian teaching. Alongside the special services of Easter Week and Easter Day, Churches including our own, will once again be filled with flowers. The magnificent white lily often displayed at this time will again be prominent in St Mary's. It is worth remembering that the reason the lily is used at Easter is that it has long stood as a symbol of purity, hope, innocence and peace. It is a biblical flower commonly associated with the resurrection of Christ and it is referred to in the Bible in the gospels of both Matthew and Luke "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ..."

So we wish everyone a very Happy Easter and look forward to seeing and speaking with as many of you as possible and please keep those involved in the search for our new incumbent in your prayers this Eastertime.

Your Wardens, Peter, Michael & Jenny

DIARY FOR APRIL 2016

Sun.3rd First Sunday after Easter
 8.00am Holy Communion at Birtles
 9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley Revd. Gary Bowness
 11.15am Family Service at Birtles
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley Revd. Gary Bowness

Sun 10th Second Sunday after Easter
 9.45am Family Service at Alderley Revd. Loveday Alexander
 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles
 6.30pm H/C (said) at Alderley Revd. David Harrison

Sun. 17th Third Sunday after Easter
8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley Revd. Ken Burghall
 9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley Revd. Loveday Alexander
 11.15am Mattins at Birtles
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley Revd. Taffy Davies

Sun. 24th Fourth Sunday after Easter
 9.45am Mattins at Alderley John Durnall
 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley Revd. Gary Bowness

Thu 28th
 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley Revd. Gary Bowness

May
Sun. 3rd First Sunday after Easter
 8.00am Holy Communion at Birtles
 9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley Revd. Gary Bowness
 11.15am Family Service at Birtles
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley Revd. Gary Bowness

ROTA FOR APRIL 2016
SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
3 rd	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45am	Mrs W. Liddle & Mrs J. Marton	Mrs W. Liddle	JY
	6.30pm	Mrs A. Robinson	Mrs J. Youatt	JY
10 th	9.45am	Mr J. Ratchford & Mrs G. Beeley	Miss C. Mowforth	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs J. Bean	Mr P. Bean	PB
17 th	8.00am	Mrs B. Essayan		HW
	9.45am	Mrs E. Fairhurst & Mrs E. Jackson	Mrs E. Jackson	MP
	6.30pm		Mrs J. Youatt	JY
24 th	9.45am	Mr M. Stonehewer & Mrs H. Jabr	Mrs J. Lee	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs G. Barrie	Mr P. Reynolds	PR
28 th THU				RA
MAY 1 st	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45pm	Mrs W. Liddle & Mr A. Claridge	Mrs W. Liddle	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A. Robinson	Mr P. Reynolds	PR

DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sunday 4th September – Holy Communion at 9.45am

Preacher the Rt. Revd. Libby Lane

Bishop of Stockport

The Story behind the hymnPraise my soul the King of Heaven

by Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

This stately poetic paraphrase of Psalm 103 has been included in probably more solemn ceremonies than any other hymn in the English language. It was even chosen by Queen Elizabeth for her wedding to the Duke of Edinburgh in 1947.

Henry Lyte had been a brilliant theological student at university in Dublin, with a gift for versifying. After graduation he moved to a tiny and remote parish in County Wexford to serve his curacy. It was here, when he was about 25, that Henry had a religious experience which would transform his life.

A close friend of his, another clergyman, had fallen ill, and was clearly dying. Henry went to visit him. The friend was not as distressed as Henry had imagined he would be. Instead the friend confessed that he had been re-reading the New Testament, with an eye on eternity, and had made a great discovery. There was no need to rely on religious duties and formalities and good deeds to gain peace with God. Instead, we can trust completely in the mercy of Christ and his saving power.

Henry was sophisticated and had been very formal in his ministry. But this encounter with his friend's faith at death's very door, made him reconsider his faith. He wrote later that his dear friend 'who died happy in the thought that there was One who would atone for his delinquencies' made him 'study my Bible and preach in another manner than I had previously done'. And soon after this hymn appeared, in 1834.

Lyte rejoices in the majesty and wonder of the living God, who in turn loves us. He captures the measure of the Psalm in enduring lyrics, which combine time, eternity, God and man all swept up into one embrace. Its last verse summons all of the created order to join in a great act of joyous praise – surely a preview of eternity!

PLEASE NOTE

8.00am Holy Communion at Birtles is on the **first** Sunday in the month.

AS FROM APRIL, OUR 8.00am HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00am Holy Communion is only on the **last** Thursday in the month.

Wherever possible the Warden's have covered each of our services with either Clergy or Readers. Unfortunately however the number of Sunday 8.00am and Thursday 10.00am services have had to be reduced due to the lack of staffing.

COFFEE is available in the Parish Hall after the 9.45am Service.

At the end of the Morning Service coffee and biscuits are provided by a stalwart group of volunteers in the Parish Hall.

Donations will be given to charity.

COLLECTION TOTALS

Week Ending	Gift Aid Envelopes	Non-Gift Aid & Misc Cash	Standing Orders	Total
Feb 7th	241.70	13.00		254.70
Feb 14th	234.00	58.00		292.00
Feb 21st	217.00	26.50		243.50
Feb 28th	251.30	74.41		325.71
TOTAL	944.00	171.91	910.00	2025.91

2016 Dated Envelopes.

Also please let me know if you would like a box, either dated or undated.
Thank you. Donald Henderson

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We held a Soup and Cheese Lunch on March 8th. This is something we have been doing annually in the early spring. Thank you to Hellie Jabr who opened her part of Alderley Cottage. Hazel Highton was soon to celebrate her 92nd Birthday so we had a Birthday Cake. 19 people came, enjoyed themselves and had a good chat. We made a profit from donations of £60.. This will go in our charity pot.

The Coffee after 9.45 services is I understand going very well. More people are venturing in to see what we are up to? Thank you to all who help with the washing up! Sadly I have not been in church for some weeks so a big thanks to everybody who is helping.

Where we can we continue to support the activities of the church life. The Social life of the church is fun and good that we can join together as a community. Especially in this time of interregnum. I understand there was a delicious Supper following the Ash Wednesday Service organised by the Jubilee Committee, Once more really enjoyed by those who were able to go.

We are actively doing more to help The Oasis Project. Please consider bringing simple tinned food, and dried food items, regularly and putting in the basket in church. Victoria does many food parcels. Our help is continued to be needed.

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

ST MARY'S WALKING GROUP

Saturday 14th May—10.00am start prompt.

Beyond Lyme Park

Starting Point: Lyme Park Car Park

Starting Point Grid Ref: SJ963824 (Post code: SK12 2NR)

Map:

Length: 7.5 miles, Moderate over varied terrain

Further info: Packed lunch with drinks needed. Walking boots or stout shoes are recommended.

Contact: Will Ablett (01625 585180) with any questions.



Interested in exploring the Christian faith?

Interested in confirmation?

Not really sure but want to find out more?

Join us for Faith Xplorers brunch!

Faith Xplorers 2016

St Philip & St James Parish Rooms,
Church Lane, Alderley Edge SK9 7UZ
Saturdays 19th March, 16th April, 23rd April
10.00 am - 2.00 pm

Three discovery sessions for young people aged 11 and upwards, exploring the Christian faith together and preparing for confirmation.

- 19th March: BELIEVING: What do Christians believe?
- 16th April: BELONGING: How do Christians grow?
- 23rd April: BEHAVING: Living the Christian life
- 1st May: Confirmation service at 10 am with the Bishop of Chester

CONTACTS:

- Revd Canon Loveday Alexander 0161-439-7946 or email at loveday.alexander@btinternet.com
- Mrs Clare Wearne 01625-426047

If there are any adults who are interested, Loveday would be happy to talk to them and arrange some instruction as required.






RACE NIGHT

Saturday 23rd April 2016 at 6pm

Nether Alderley Parish Hall

Sausage & Chip supper followed by races

Horses available for £3 each

Tickets £6 available from :

Mark & Sarah-Jane Wilkinson / Gail Hodgett / Sally Hilldrup
/ Maureen Woolley

Shakespeare - the Bard of Avon

William Shakespeare, universally recognised as the world's greatest playwright, died on 23rd April 1616. The 400th anniversary of that event is being widely marked – the BBC is broadcasting every one of his plays, for instance.

Even people who have never read any of them are familiar with bits of their speeches: 'To be or not to be?' and 'Neither a borrower nor a lender be' (Hamlet); 'Out, out damned spot!' (Macbeth); 'Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears!' (Julius Caesar); 'If music be the food of love, play on' (Twelfth Night); 'Beware the green-eyed monster' (Othello) and scores more. 'Now is the Winter of our discontent' (Richard the Third) has plagued my life!

We probably endured studying his plays as teen-agers and if not then, then perhaps later found how wonderfully he tuned his words to the human spirit.

He was a jobbing actor, a script writer, a master of the sonnet as well as being a truly great dramatist. He lifted the English language to new heights. Let's celebrate him this month!

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB
February draw winners

1 st prize	Ann Storey
2 nd prize	Ines Jamieson
3 rd prize	Helen Jabr

Congratulations to all the winners

Your cheque or standing order gives you a chance of being the winner.

Forms can be found at the back of Church and in the Parish Hall Kitchen.

Last year, £ 1300 has been handed over to St Mary's treasurer towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

PARISH PROFILE

The completed Profile is available for your viewing, at the back of church. It can also be seen on www.alderleychurch.co.uk.

We hope you will find it interesting..

CONGREGANTS REQUEST

8.00am Holy Communion

As from April, St.Mary's 8.00am Holy Communion will take place on the 3rd Sunday in the month and **NOT** the last Sunday in the month.

MOTHERS' UNION

You are warmly invited to attend our next Mothers' Union gathering on Wednesday April 20th at 2.00pm. Our speaker will tell us all about 'East Cheshire Hospice' Please do join us!

100th Alderley Edge Festival Grand Celebratory Concert

This year will see the 100th Alderley Edge Festival of Music, Speech and Drama, and to mark this very special occasion there will be a celebratory gala concert on the evening of Saturday 23rd April in the newly refurbished Festival Hall.

Around 20 exceptional past winners have been invited to perform and the programme will be very varied, including performances on voice, violin, cornet, saxophone, piano, trombone and trumpet and some speech and drama items too. It should be a wonderful evening and a great community event.

Tickets are available in advance only and cost £12.50 for adults, £6.50 for under 18s. Some refreshments are included and there will be a bar for the purchase of drinks. For further information or to purchase tickets please call Gabrielle Jeffcoate on 01625 582100.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Despite snow falling steadily 35 people from St. Philip's, St. Pius and the Methodist Church joined us at St. Mary's at 2pm on the 4th March to take part in this special worldwide service uniting Christian women from many countries. We were pleased to have three girls from Alderley School for Girls also taking part. We are also very grateful to Wendy Davies (St. Philip's) for her beautiful solo and to the Alderley Edge Brownies for making paper flowers.

This year the service was written by the Christian women of Cuba. The Rev'd Jane Parry gave an interesting talk based on the title of the service "Receive Children, Receive Me". The service was ably led by Maureen Woolley.

Afterwards we all enjoyed tea and cakes in the Parish Hall. One lady was heard to remark "we always have lovely cakes at St. Mary's"!

ST MARY'S HERBACEOUS PLANTS SALE

will be held at the

METHODIST CHURCH HALL
On MAY 7th 10-12am

Alderley Edge Methodist Church have kindly given us space to hold our Herbaceous Plant Sale for Christian Aid; alongside their annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning.

Contact Lynn Smith or Fiona Ablett

For further detail

Please Support this GARDENING EVENT

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 15th-21st

ADVANCED NOTICE

Please Advise Me as soon as possible

If you are able to collect for

Christian Aid this year

Thank you. Tel: Fiona

On 01625 585180