

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christenings

Holy Matrimony

Funerals

Jan 8th June Gass
Jan 13th Irene Yarwood

FLOWER ROTA

Feb 7th Avril Lamond
Feb 14th Lent
Feb 21st Lent
Feb 28th Lent

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 18th February 2016**
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Large format copies of the magazine are available.

Wardens Write

February 2016

Why do we traditionally give something up during Lent, alcohol, chocolate? As Easter is early this year (Sunday 27th Mar) the question will come up soon! But before that there are festivals to look forward to; what are their significance in our Christian teachings today?

Shrove Tuesday (9th Feb) originated from the ritual of '*shriving*' that Christians used to undergo when a person confessed their sins and received absolution for them. To prepare for the fasting of Lent and so that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the *shriving* Tuesday to eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off. The need to eat up the fats gave rise to the French name *Mardi Gras* ('fat Tuesday'). Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.

Carnival sometimes known as *Mardi Gras* also has an interesting history and originated in Italy amongst the followers of the Catholic religion who started the tradition of holding a wild costume festival right before the first day of Lent. Because Catholics are not supposed to eat meat during Lent, they called their festival, *carnevale* — which means "to put away the meat." As time passed, and as the French, Spanish, and Portuguese began to colonise other parts of the world they brought their traditions with them hence the origin of perhaps the most famous of all the Carnivals in Rio in Brazil.

On **Ash Wednesday** Anglicans and Roman Catholic churches traditionally hold special services. The name originated when worshippers were marked with ashes as a symbol of death and sorrow for sin. The ashes, made by burning palm crosses from the previous Palm Sunday, is very symbolic and this tradition is still observed in many Western Churches today.

And so follows **Lent**, an old English word meaning 'lengthen' which we observe in Spring when the days begin to get longer. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days – it is a test of self-discipline and why we try to 'give something up'.

At St Mary's our Ash Wednesday service will be at 18:30pm and will be followed by supper. Come and join us and you can ponder what you will give up this year. You will be amongst friends and acquaintances and will be very welcome.

We look forward to seeing you as often as you can make and we would love you to come and join us this Ash Wednesday.

Your Wardens, Jenny, Michael & Peter

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2016

Sun.7th	Quinquagesima		
	8.00am	Holy Communion at Birtles	
	9.45am	Holy Communion at Alderley	Rev. Loveday Alexander
	11.15am	Family Service at Birtles	
	6.30pm	Evensong at Alderley	Rev. Gary Bowness
Wed.10th	6.30pm	Ash Wednesday H/C	Rev. Gary Bowness
		Followed by Supper	
Sun.14th	First Sunday in Lent		
	9.45am	Family Service at Alderley	Rev. Loveday Alexander
	11.15am	Holy Communion at Birtles	
	6.30pm	H/C said at Alderley	Rev. Gary Bowness
Sun. 21st	Second Sunday in Lent		
	9.45am	Holy Communion at Alderley	Rev. Susan Hawkins
	11.15am	Mattins at Birtles	
	6.30pm	Evensong at Alderley	Rev. Gary Bowness
Thur. 25th	10.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley	Rev. Gary Bowness
Sun. 28th	Third Sunday in Lent		
	8.00am	Holy Communion	Rev. Gary Bowness
	9.45am	Mattins at Alderley	John Durnall
	11.15am	Holy Communion at Birtles	
	6.30pm	Evensong at Alderley	Rev. Gary Bowness
March			
Sun. 6th	Mothering Sunday		
	9.45am	Mothering Sunday Service	Rev. David Harrison
	11.15am	Holy Communion at Birtles	
	6.30pm	Evensong at Alderley	Rev. Gary Bowness

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. (See page 3)

ROTA FOR FEBRUARY 2016

SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
7 th	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45am	Mrs W. Liddle & Mrs G. Beeley	Mrs W. Liddle	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A. Robinson	Mr Peter Reynolds	PR
14 th	9.45am	Mrs J. Martin & Mrs E. Fairhurst	George Vardon	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs J. Bean	Mr P. Bean	PB
21 st	9.45am	M. Stonehewer & Mrs E. Jackson	Mrs E. Jackson	MP
	6.30pm		Mrs J. Youatt	JY
28 th	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mrs R. Dyas & Mr M. Wilkinson	Mrs SJ Wilkinson	MP
	6.30pm	Mr G. Barrie	Mr P. Reynolds	PR
THU 25 th	10.00am			PB
MAR 6 th	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45pm	Mrs W. Liddle & Mr G. Hilton	Mrs W. Liddle	JY
	6.30pm	Mrs A. Robinson	Mr P. Reynolds	PR

There will be a service on Ash Wednesday (February 10th) at 6.30pm.

Warden: Mrs J. Youatt; Lector: Mrs SJ Wilkinson; Sidesman: Mr M. Wilkinson



Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 4th March 2016

2.00pm

at St. Mary's Church, Nether Alderley

Women's World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, organised and led by Christian women who call the faithful together on the first Friday in March each year to observe a common day of prayer and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

The service is written by a different country each year and that country then becomes the focus of the world's prayers on the day itself, which begins as dawn breaks over the islands of Tonga in the Pacific and continues across each continent until the last services of this special day are held back in the Pacific, on the islands of Samoa, circling the world in prayer for 36 hours.

The origins of Women's World Day of Prayer date back to the 19th century when Christian women in the USA and Canada initiated a variety of cooperative activities in support of women's involvement in mission, at home and abroad.

The service for 2016 has been written by the Christian women from Cuba. The title of the service is 'Receive Children. Receive Me'

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.

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
Dec 6 th	243.00	41.00		284.00
Dec 13 th	250.00	34.25		284.25
Dec 20 th	515.72	287.20		802.92
Dec 24/25	674.59	473.62		1168.21
Dec 27 th	231.00	32.00		263.00
TOTAL	1914.31	868.07	535.00	3317.38

2016 Dated Envelopes.

Please collect your box from the magazine rack at the back of church.

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

Thank you

Donald Henderson"

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We are holding a **Bridge Drive on Monday February 8th** 1.30pm - 4.30pm in the Parish Hall. Tables are £26. I am sure everybody knows about this. At the time of going to press there are one or two tables left to be taken.

The final figure for the Christmas Fair after expenses was around £894. This was due to the hard work put in by many people.

We have around £50 in our donation pot.

On the whole this comes from the donations for tea and coffee following morning services. It will be distributed following our next committee meeting. Again thanks to all who help. **It would be good to have some more offers of help**, especially at this time of interregnum. It is good to have this get together!!

We intend to have a Soup and Cheese lunch on March 8th in Hellie's kitchen. Arrangements to be confirmed at our next committee Meeting.

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

ST MARY'S WALKING GROUP

Saturday 5th March—10.00am start prompt.

Starting Point: Rowarth Car Park

Grid Ref. SK 01146 : 89206

Post Code: SK22 1EF (approx. location)

Length: 6.2 miles

Further info: Bring a packed lunch.

Contact: Terry Fones (01625 920738)



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

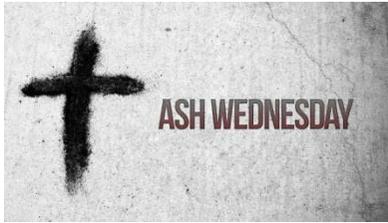
Three discovery sessions for young people aged 11 and upwards, exploring the Christian faith together and preparing for confirmation.

- 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.



10th February 2016

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

18.30

followed by a supper in the Parish Hall

If you'd like to attend the Supper, please contact a member of the Jubilee Committee or email markwilkinson81@icloud.com so we know how many to cater for!

OASIS

A 6 month snap shot of what has been going on at Oasis

256 two week emergency food parcels have been given out to individuals and families in desperate need. Over 400 people have benefited from our free cafe serving hot and nutritious breakfast and lunches For some this has been the only hot and nutritious meal they receive all week.

The Community Support and Advice team dealt with 852 client crisis issues. 55 clients enrolled onto our Adult Basic Life Skills training courses and Getting Work Ready Scheme.

Best of all 13 clients left the Oasis Centre achieving their goals and moving into volunteering, education and employment in just 6 months!

The help from St Mary's really makes a difference to their success. Please keep it up! **Anne Robinson**

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB **December draw winners**

1st prize Jenny Youatt
2nd prize Ines Jamieson
3rd prize Fiona Robinson

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.

BRIDGE DRIVE

This has been organised for **Monday February 8th** in the Parish Hall starting 1.30pm. Tables will cost £26.

Please tell your friends. We need to advertise this!!

Everybody's support is necessary. Some people who have habitually had a table are no longer able to do so, so we need some new blood!!

Let me know if you would like a Table or know anyone who would be interested.

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

THANK YOU FROM THE PCC

'Our Vision' and 'Rector Qualities' in our Parish Profile have resulted from the views of the congregants, expressed through an open invitation to submit their ideas, comments and observations.

The completed Profile will be available for viewing as from mid February.

STOP PRESS – CAROL SINGING

A big thank-you to all our hosts and to all our singers. We raised £1360 over 2 nights carol singing and a session at Woodlands Court. The money has been split evenly between the 'NSPCC' and 'East Cheshire Hospice'

**In 21 years we have raised just over
£20,000 for various charities**

Jenny Youatt

CONGREGANTS REQUEST

8.00am Holy Communion

As from April our 8.00am Holy Communion will take place on the 3rd Sunday in the month and NOT the last Sunday in the month.

The reason for this is to spread the services more evenly.

200 and not out!!

The 200 club draw will now take place on 2nd Sunday of each month.

Winners will receive cheques in the following week.

Our Treasurer Rachel Mogg has done a sterling job of managing the membership and the money.

Geoff and Maureen Woolley have supervised the draw and reported the winners each month.

The amount raised to date for Church Funds (running costs) is around £1700 to date.

Current and new winners stand an equal chance of winning.

The prize money increases the higher the membership.

First prize at present is just under £40 every month.

– it would also be great if you could join in.

Thank you all for its success to date. **Fiona Ablett and Stephen Maynard**

MOTHERS' UNION

You are warmly invited to attend our next Mothers' Union gathering on Wednesday February 17th at 2.00pm. Our speaker is our own Terry Fones and the title of his talk is 'Let's Go Home'. Please do join us!

Mothers Union News

We held our AGM on 20th January (in the Parish Hall) & 10 members were able to attend enjoying an excellent buffet lunch afterwards. It was a relaxed and convivial meeting & a lovely opportunity to catch up with our friends. Noni Watkins kindly volunteered to chair the meeting as the branch is operating on a committee-run basis at present, since the retirement of our Branch Leader, Anne Cockburn. This is proving to be both a workable & satisfactory formula. We would warmly welcome any potential new members as well as visitors to our meetings (held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month), in fact anybody who likes an interesting & congenial afternoon out !

Speakers are arranged for most meetings & we have thoroughly enjoyed talks from the Rev. Michael Burgess (humorous tales from a rural parish), Paul & Nick Bianchi (who outlined the history of Arighi Bianchi & how it flourishes to this day), a representative came from Roberts Bakery near Northwich (its origins & expansion & running) & Tim Boddington gave an interesting talk on 'Old Bollington'.

Our MU/ACF branch has been pleased to support various overseas charities e.g. To St. James' Hospital, Lesotho, & The Literacy Fund in Africa, sending the sum of approx. £200 annually to such causes, raised primarily via our collections from the Xmas raffle, "produce table" sales, teas, & some years from our popular Cake Sale. The work of the MU is varied & fund raising tho important, is but part of the bigger picture. Our next meeting is on 17th February at 2pm, do come along and join us !



Are you a girl between 7 and 10 years old?

Do you like adventures and making new friends?

Then Brownies is made for you!

Come and join us at 4th Alderley (St Philip's) Brownies, in Alderley Edge. We meet every Wednesday from 5pm to 6:30pm during term time. For more details contact Pat Gorton on 01625 586313 or email patgorton@hotmail.co.uk. Younger girls are welcome to join our waiting list.