

An organist friend of mine has the words of a prayer which is known as “The Organist’s Prayer” framed and placed next to the organ keyboard at the Church he plays for. This framed prayer was bought from an American theme park called Dollywood after the country singer Dolly Parton who owns it. Dolly has a simple Christian faith and has a wooden mountain chapel within the theme park where Services are held. From these curious origins I wish to share with you the prayer:

***Dear Lord, I come
with humble heart
please keep it so I pray
when people say nice
things to me as they
have done today.
When I am seated
in my place, my hand
on organ key, may they
forget that I am there
and catch a glimpse of Thee.***

The simplicity of the prayer gives it an unpretentious charm that is immediately attractive. But it holds up a great truth that when we gather together for worship we put our time, talents and resources in God’s service. We are not there to perform or to serve ourselves. The prayer could with adaptation be called the Priest’s Prayer or the Parishioner’s Prayer. It is a reminder that consumerism (I want what I want) convenience (I want what I want when I want it) and egotism (What I want is all that is important) are things to be left firmly at the Church door. Failure to guard against these is a spiritual death because we stand in the way of others glimpsing God and are so taken up with ourselves that we also fail to glimpse Him. Joining our hearts and voices with others in worship requires a certain discipline and an understanding that we are not here to serve ourselves. This is very counter cultural but also counter to many of our natural instincts. Worship when spoken of in terms of personal likes and dislikes becomes more like entertainment and more focused on the individual than the one we are supposed to be worshipping. The underground Church in the Communist China of Mao Tse-tung sung hymns in silence and gathered at great personal risk and yet it managed to draw others into glimpsing God. I wonder whether such sacrifice and cost as was required to sustain the Church in China at that time could only be given to God and not the whims or ego of an individual. The glimpsing of God was what was important and should be for us.

DIARY FOR JULY 2015

Thur.2nd 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun.5th Fifth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am *Holy Communion at Birtles*

9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley

11.15am *Family Service at Birtles*

6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

Thur.9th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sat. 11th 1.00pm Holy Matrimony at Alderley

Sun.12th Sixth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

9.45am Family Service at Alderley

10.30am *Holy Communion at Birtles*

6.30pm Holy Communion at Alderley

Thur.16th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sat. 18th 1.00pm Holy Matrimony at Alderley

Sun. 19th Seventh Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley

11.15am *Mattins at Birtles*

6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

Thur.23rd 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun. 26th Eighth Sunday in Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

9.45am Mattins at Alderley with Sunday School

11.15am *Holy Communion at Birtles*

6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

Thur.30th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

**Audust
Sun.3rd**

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am *Holy Communion at Birtles*
9.45am *Holy Communion at Alderley*
10.30am *Family Service at Birtles*
6.30pm *Evensong at Alderley*

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
3 rd May	303.86	57.80		361.66
10 th May	234.00	97.26		331.26
17 th May	334.00	121.75		455.75
24 th May	285.70	79.60		365.30
31 st May	169.80	26.00		195.80
TOTAL	1327.36	382.41	1150.00	2859.77

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB

May draw winners

1st prize Mr D. Mogg
2nd prize Mrs F. Robinson
3rd prize Mrs M. Deacon

Congratulations to all the winners

NEXT MONTH'S FIRST PRIZE WILL BE IN EXCESS OF £40.

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.

So far £ 500 has been handed over to St Mary's treasurer towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We are looking forward to the **Summer Lunch** outing on Wednesday **5th August** and have now decided to go to the Davenport Arms at Marton .

We can all sit together and there is plenty of room with easy access. Everybody can have own choice of food.

I will be in touch with everybody nearer the time. In the meantime please let me know if you can be with us. Please also let me know if anybody has an interest to be with us who has not been before.

We had a **happy Summer Tea Party** at Alderley Cottage on Wednesday June 10th.

Thank you to everybody who helps with **Coffee** after the 9.45 service, specially washing up!! More people are joining this. Both Oasis and The Hospice are really grateful for our support with the donation monies we collect in our pot.

The plans for the **September Church Open Weekend**, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th are progressing. Please is there anyone who could help with the Café. As usual all these activities do need willing hands.

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

ST MARY'S WALKING GROUP

Saturday 8th August – 10.00am start prompt. (NB. a week earlier than usual)

Starting Point: lay by at Moscar Heights (Just off A57 Ladybower to Sheffield road)

Map: OL1 Dark peak

Grid ref: SK 2421 8840

Length: 7 miles easy /moderate

Further info: Please bring lunch

Contact: Terry 01625 820738



Alderley Church Flower Fund

Afternoon Tea Party on the Church Paddock - Sunday 2nd August 2015

Afternoon Tea served at your table - 3.30pm – 5.00pm.
(sandwiches, homemade cakes, strawberries and cream)

(IF WET – IN PARISH HALL)

Please bring a plant for the 'bring and buy' plant stall.

Tickets : £10 per person which includes Afternoon Tea and entry to a prize draw.

Children free. Every ticket is numbered and entered into the draw.

1st Prize. Voucher for 2 persons (double or twin) for 2 nights B & B at the 5* Award winning 'Cleifiog' in Beaumaris - an historic townhouse on the seafront.

2nd Prize. Voucher for £25 Ivy Cottage Christmas Tree Farm and shop, Wilmslow.

3rd Prize. Voucher for £20 Steve Leyland Flowers, Grove Street, Wilmslow

Tickets: Michael Penlington 01625 530084 or Fiona Robinson 01625 860679



Successful Christian Aid Week

St. Mary's team raised £1193 of which €854 was from house to house collections and £339 was from the sale of plants. Well done to Lynn and her team and many thanks to everyone concerned.

Alderley Churches together including St. Mary raised £4215.

Fiona Ablett

Glyn Davis

Ann, Martin and Family wish to thank James, Churchwardens (past and present), Choir and congregation for their support and kindness during Glyn's illness and since he died. The funeral service was just as Glyn would have wanted. Thank you all so much.

Ann, Martin and Family

Cancer Research UK

On the 19th July Sarah and I are competing in a Race for Life around Hyde Park in central London to raise money for Cancer Research UK. As you all know, I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma when I was only 21 years old and underwent several treatments over the following 2 years as I relapsed twice. I have just passed my 1 year all clear stage and to mark the event my best friend Sarah and I have decided that we would like to give back to the people who work every day into researching new drugs and cures in a race around a beautiful part of London.

We have set up a just giving site where you can keep track of our progress and read some small stories that we have both wrote, if however you would like to kindly donate but prefer not to do it online, there will be a sheet in the back of church where you can donate.

All our thanks, Hannah Sweetman and Sarah Reynolds
www.justgiving.com/hana-sarah

J. Jennings & Son

Established in 1802—Funeral Directors

J. Jennings & Son wish to thank all friends and clients for their loyalty during the past years. We wish to inform you that we have ceased trading as an Independent Funeral Directors.

Should you have any further enquires or wish to make any arrangements please contact:

Andrew Butcher at Hopkinson Wootton Lovatt, Independent
Funeral Directors. Tel: 01782 715 152
who have worked closely with J. Jennings over the past 10 years

Have you ever wondered why the British drive on the left?



There is an historical reason for this; it's all to do with keeping your sword hand free!

In the Middle Ages you never knew who you were going to meet when travelling. Most people are right-handed, so if a stranger passed by on the right of you, your right hand would be free to use your sword if required.

Indeed the 'keep to the left' rule goes back even further in time; archaeologists have discovered evidence suggesting that the Romans drove carts and wagons on the left, and it is known that Roman soldiers always marched on the left.

This 'rule of the road' was officially sanctioned in 1300 AD when Pope Boniface VIII declared that all pilgrims travelling to Rome should keep to the left.

This continued until the late 1700s when large wagons became popular for transporting goods. These wagons were drawn by several pairs of horses and had no driver's seat. Instead, in order to control the horses, the driver sat on the horse at the back left, thus keeping his whip hand free. Sitting on the left however made it difficult to judge the traffic coming the other way, as anyone who has driven a left-hand drive car along the winding lanes of Britain will agree!

These huge wagons were best suited to the wide open spaces and large distances of Canada and the US, and the first keep-to-the-right law was passed in Pennsylvania in 1792, with many Canadian and US states following suit later. In France a decree of 1792 ordered traffic to keep to the "common" right and Napoleon later enforced the rule in all French territories.

In England there wasn't much call for these massive wagons and the smaller British vehicles had seats for the driver to sit on behind the horses. As most people are right-handed, the driver would sit to the right of the seat so his whip hand was free.

Traffic congestion in 18th century London led to a law being passed to make all traffic on London Bridge keep to the left in order to reduce collisions. This rule was incorporated into the Highway Act of 1835 and was adopted throughout the British Empire.

There was a movement in the 20th century towards the harmonisation of road laws in Europe and a gradual shift began from driving on the left to the right. The last Europeans to change from left to right were the Swedes who bravely made the change overnight on September 3rd 1967. At 4.50am all traffic in Sweden stopped for ten minutes before restarting, this time driving on the right.

Today, only 35% of countries drive on the left. These include India, Indonesia, Ireland, Malta, Cyprus, Japan, New Zealand, Australia and most recently, Samoa in 2009. Most of these countries are islands but where land borders require a change from left to right, this is usually accomplished using traffic lights, cross-over bridges, one-way systems or similar.

Rev. Edward Stanley – Rector of Alderley 1805 - 1837



Edward Stanley, was born in London on 1 January 1779, the second son and seventh child of Sir John Thomas Stanley, sixth baronet, of Alderley Park, Cheshire, and his wife Margaret Owen (a Welsh heiress). His elder brother, John Thomas, was first Baron Stanley of Alderley, and father of Edward John Stanley, second Baron Stanley.

Edward's initial hopes were to enter the Royal Navy, but his family refused to allow that. Accordingly, he was educated at St John's College, Cambridge and ordained in 1802. In 1805 the family patronage was used to appoint him Rector of Alderley, a post he held until his appointment as Bishop of Norwich in 1837. Here

he took a great interest in the schools in his parish and the Church's social role: founding temperance societies, mechanics' institutes, and statistical societies.

He was an active naturalist, publishing *A Familiar History of Birds, their Nature, Habits, and Instincts* in 1836 and studied geology. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and President of the Linnean Society.

In 1837 he was nominated by Lord Melbourne to the Bishopric of Norwich, vacant by the death of the notoriously indolent Bishop Bathurst. Here he proved himself an energetic bishop in the new Victorian mold - plurality was clamped down on and ecclesiastical discipline enforced. He had 173 new parsonages built, doubled the number of schools and rendered them more efficient. The examinations for ordination were carefully conducted, and Stanley made himself personally acquainted with the previous career of every candidate.

He was a frequent attendee of the House of Lords, frequently speaking in support of Whig policies, such as Catholic relief, toleration of dissenters and, notably, the ragged school movement. His political liberalism put him at odds with his diocese, but he was held in high personal regard.

In August 1849 he started for a tour in Scotland with his wife and daughters. At Brahan Castle in Rosshire he was taken ill, and died from congestion of the brain on 6 September 1849. His body was brought by sea from Invergordon to Yarmouth, and was buried in the nave of Norwich Cathedral, which also has a fine window in his memory.

Edward married Catherine (1792-1862), eldest daughter of the Revd Oswald Leycester in 1810. They had had five children; Owen, Mary, Arthur, Charles and Catherine, each one of whom is of interest in their own right.

Respect for old military medals (by David Winter...a writer for Parish Pump)

Those of you, like me, who often watch 'Flog It!' on BBC1 will know that recently military medals have frequently come up for sale. Sometimes it's relatives who have found a few medals in a drawer and wonder if they might be valuable, or someone who picked up a collection of old medals in a car boot sale and now wants to sell them.



Sometimes it's children, grand-children or nephews and nieces who are bringing to the auction medals that have been in the family a long while, but now they are simply clutter - strange relics of a bygone era.

The odd medals found at car boot sales are seldom of much monetary value. The valuer always explains that it is the story, the person, that creates the value rather than the medal itself (unless, of course, it's a VC or DFC). If a medal has a name connected to it, and especially if there is some documented evidence about its origin (a newspaper cutting, or a War Office citation) then it often sells for considerable sums.

I find it both moving and disturbing to watch this trade in people's stories. Every medal, even the so-called 'ordinary' ones, represents a human story, a man or a woman whose routine life was disrupted by the brutality of war. The medals are simply tokens, but they are tokens of important and often traumatic events in a person's life. I realise that with the passing of time the story can get disconnected from the medal. The memory has long faded away.

Probably no living person now can remember 'Uncle George' or 'Aunt Grace' who served in the deserts of North Africa or drove an ambulance up the beaches of Normandy. Yet, surely, those funny bits of ribbon and a kind of coin thing are so much more than just a piece of merchandise?

For the sake of memory or out of sheer respect for these shadowy figures of the past, let's try to keep their precious memorials safe - even if it's in a regimental museum. 'We will remember them', we say. And keeping their medals may be a fitting part of that

(Uncle Eustace Letters)

On what security cameras in church will tell you

From The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Much against my better judgement, after a recent series of small thefts, we have installed security cameras here at St. James the Least. At least the suggestion for trip wires that opened the gate to Mrs Poppleroy's garden next door, thereby setting loose her deranged Pekinese, were narrowly defeated – though I had to use my casting vote.

So now we have a complete record of everything that goes on when no one is about. It makes such interesting viewing that I have cancelled my television licence and spend every evening watching the antics of my parishioners. I wonder if there is some niche television channel which would be interested; it could help the tower restoration fund no end.

Miss Margison seems to imagine she is now part of some theatrical performance every time she cleans the church; her body language as she wields a feather duster is of operatic proportions, as is her final bow to the cameras as she leaves.

I have at last found the several hiding places where Mr Prentice secretes his bottle of whisky every week when he comes to wind the tower clock.

Colonel Wainwright, who served for some time in the security services, is now worried that pictures of him cleaning the brass will be circulated in Russia. He fails to appreciate that his disguise as a French onion seller, with striped jersey, beret and waxed moustache does tend to make his presence rather more interesting than he imagines – to us, if not to the KGB.

The flower arrangers seem to imagine that we are recording sound as well as pictures and so whenever they are in church together, all gossip is written down and passed round by hand as they work in total silence. So far, they have remembered to take their pieces of paper home with them. One slip and I shall probably learn more about my parishioners in five minutes than I have done in the last five years.

The cameras have also solved the mystery of who has been pilfering the items - and even the nest where they have hidden it. If only I could teach the magpies to extract money from pockets and place it on the collection plate.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

ROTA FOR JULY 2015
SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
5 th	9.45am	Mrs W.Liddle & Mrs G. Beeley	Mrs W. Liddle	JY
	6.30pm	Mr M. Dyer	Mr P. Reynolds	PR
12 th	8.00am	Mrs B. Essayan		RA
	9:45am	Mrs R.Dyas & Mr S. Welsh	Sophie or George Vardon	JY
	6.30pm	Mrs J. Bean	Mr P. Bean	PB
19 th	8.00am			PB
	9.45am	Mr J. Ratchford & Mr G. Woolley	Mrs E. Jackson	MP
	6.30pm		Mr P. Reynolds	PR
26 th	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mr M. Wilkinson & Mr G. Hilton	Mrs SJ Wilkinson	MP
	6.30pm	Mr G. Barrie	Mr M. Dyer	JY
Aug 2 nd				
	9.45am	Mrs W. Liddle & Mrs J. Martin	Mrs W. Liddle	PB
	6.30pm		Mr P. Reynolds	PR

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christenings

Sun 31st May Nina May Robinson
Sun 14th June Thomas William and Jessica Matilda Eke
Sat 19th June George Charles Edward and Alfred William Samuel Bounds
Sat 26th June Phoebe Willow Oakes

Holy Matrimony

Sat 6th June Claire Rachel Sutton and Michael Joseph Steward
Sat 13th June Jennie Rachel Madden and Adam John Wildig

Funerals

Fri 5th June Avril Jennings
Tue 16th June Glyn Davis
Fri 19th June Margaret Hewits
Fri 19th June Marianne Jones

FLOWER ROTA

July 5th Joyce Davis
July 12th Joyce Davis
July 19th Michael Penlington
July 26th Michsel Penlington

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

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