

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

Weddings

Funerals

Feb 3rd David Brian Joseph

FLOWER ROTA

Mar 5th	Lent
Mar 12th	Lent
Mar 19th	Lent
Mar 26th	Lent

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 16th March 2017**
Please send all copy to:

Editorial: Jenny Youatt Email: info@stmarysaldlerley.com
1, Orchard Crescent, Nether Alderley, SK10 4TZ

Production: Jean Whittingham: (01625 583247)

Subscriptions
& Distribution: Peter Bean: 01625 582073

Large format copies of the magazine are available.

Rector Writes

March 2017

The Rector writes about 'Thy Kingdom Come' 25 May – 4 June

'Thy Kingdom Come' is a national initiative that's been taken on by all the churches: a time of prayer between Ascension Day (25th May) and Pentecost / Whit Sunday (4th June). You can read about it at http://www.chester.anglican.org/page_pdt.asp?Page=1042

St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley and St.Catherine's Church, Birtles will take part in 'Thy Kingdom Come'. I will be arranging for a party from the two churches to be at the Cathedral for the special service on 4th June, and we will also be at the Cathedral on another day during 'Thy Kingdom Come' – the date to be announced.

During 'Thy Kingdom Come' **'The Big Church Day Out' will be at Capesthorpe Hall on 2nd and 3rd June with overnight camping.** Find out more and book your tickets at <https://bigchurchdayout.com/north>

On Pentecost / Whit Sunday (4th June) at Chester Cathedral at 5.30pm there will be a special big service. This is for all generations involving arts, drama, dance, youth events and to welcome a pilgrimage that will be arriving from Foxhill Retreat Centre at Frodsham. This will be a service where prayers from every parish across the Diocese of Chester will be offered to God within a great celebration as we cry out for a fresh wave of God's spirit to be poured out on our Diocese. The Cathedral will be packed with people of every age from across the Diocese to worship God with music led by a worship band. We will get together a party from St.Catherine's Church and St.Mary's Church to go to this service.

The parish churches from our area will be asked to be at the Cathedral on one of the other days of 'Thy Kingdom Come' to lead worship and prayer on that day. When I know the day, I will announce it and I will ask for all who would like to go to the Cathedral to let me know so that we may travel together.

And let us all pray 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

Revd Jon Hale

DIARY FOR MARCH 2017

Sun.5th First Sunday in Lent
 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

Sun 12th Second Sunday in Lent
 8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
 9.45am Family Service at Alderley
 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles
 6.30pm Holy Communion at Alderley (said)
 Thurs 16th 10.00am Holy Communion

Sun. 19th Third Sunday in Lent
 8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
 9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley
 11.15am Mattins at Birtles
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley
 Thurs 23rd 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
 Sat 25th 10.00am Lady Day Communion

Sun 26th Fourth Sunday in Lent—Mothering Sunday
 8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley
 9.45am Family Service at Alderley
 11.15am Family Service at Birtles
 6.30am Evensong at Alderley
 Thurs 30th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

April 2nd Fifth Sunday in Lent
 8.00am Holy Communion at Birtles
 9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley
 11.15am Family Service at Birtles
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

ROTA FOR MARCH 2017
SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
Mar 5 th	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45am	Mrs W. Liddle & Mr S Welsh	Mrs W Liddle	MP
	6.30pm	Mr M Dyer	Mr P Reynolds	PR
Mar 12 th	8.00am			RA
	9.45am	Mrs J Beeley & Mrs H Jabr	Miss C Mowforth	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs J Bean	Mr P Bean	PB
Mar 19 th	8.00am			PB
	9.45am	Mrs R Dyas & Mrs E Jackson	Mrs J Lee	MP
	6.30pm		Mrs A Robinson	JY
Mar 26 th	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mr G Hilton & Mr A Claridge	Mr T. Fones	MP
	6.30pm	Mr G Barrie	Mr P Reynolds	PR

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.

St David - guiding the Welsh Church through turbulent times

by David Winter (Parish Pump)

On 1st March Wales celebrates its patron saint, David. He is indisputably British, and is revered wherever Welsh people have settled. As with most figures from the so-called 'Dark Ages' (he lived in the sixth century), reliable details about his life are scarce, but there are enough for us to form a picture of a formidably austere, disciplined and charismatic leader, who led the Church in Wales through turbulent years and fought tenaciously for the faith.

It's likely that he was strengthened in his ministry by time spent in Ireland, where the Church was stronger and more confident. Early records tell of a meeting of Irish church leaders with three 'Britons', as they were described, among them 'bishop David'. His mother, Non, is also celebrated as a saint in Wales, where a number of churches are dedicated in her name.

That he founded a monastery at Menevia, in Pembrokeshire, seems beyond doubt. It later became the site of St David's cathedral and the settlement which is now the smallest city in the United Kingdom. From Menevia David embarked on preaching and teaching missions across Wales, and probably beyond. His eloquence was legendary.

At a famous Synod of the Church, held at a Carmarthenshire village called Brefi, he preached passionately against the Arian heresy - indeed, so passionately that he was (according to some accounts) immediately named as archbishop of Wales. The village is now known as Llandewi Brefi - brefi in Welsh is a hillock, and legend claims that it appeared miraculously in order to provide the eloquent bishop with a pulpit.

His monks avoided wine and beer, drinking only water. Indeed, he and they lived lives of rigorous austerity and constant prayer, in the manner of the Desert Fathers of the Eastern Church. The date of David's death is disputed - either 589 or 601. It wasn't until the twelfth century that he was generally accepted as the patron saint of Wales.

It's traditional for Welsh people to wear daffodils on St David's Day but there seems no particular reason for it, beyond the fact that they tend to make their early Spring appearance round about his day - oh, and they look nice!!

Email addresses

The email address of the Office at The Rectory is alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com.

Ken Wilkinson – the Church Administrator – works in the office on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

You can also contact the Rector on this email address: vicar@jkcahale.co.uk

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer will be held as follows:

Every Wednesday at St.Catherine's Church, Birtles at 8.45am

Every Thursday at St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley at 8.45am

COLLECTION TOTAL

Week ending	Envelopes	Misc Cash	Standing Orders	Total
1 st Jan	115.00	37.00		152.00
8 th Jan	348.00	122.09		470.09
15 th Jan	259.00	116.70		375.70
22 nd Jan	115.00	26.00		141.00
29 th Jan	287.00	38.00		325.00
TOTAL	1124.00	339.79	1291.00	2754.79

Donald Henderson Tel 01625 584008 or email orchardmain@ntlworld.com

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We held a Bridge Drive on Monday February 13th as planned. We had a lovely sunny February day. Everybody had a successful afternoon. 10 out of 10 awarded for the tea. We made a profit after expenses of £245.40. This money is in hand at the moment. Big thank you to everybody who helped in whatever capacity.

We now plan to have an Easter Soup and Cheese Lunch basically for the Tea Party people but also anyone else who is interested on Wednesday April 12th at Alderley Cottage, using Hellie's kitchen, 12.00 pm for 12.30pm. Please let me or Hellie know if you would like to join in. Really look forward to welcoming as many as possible. Hellie's no. 01625 585 852.

Janet Adamson (01625 583320)

WALKING

A group of friends from St Mary's are going for a walk on the 1st April 2017. The details are given below and anyone interested is welcome to join the group. If you do come along, you do so at your own risk as walking can be a hazardous activity. Children and / or dogs are also welcome but you have to take full responsibility for them. It is advisable that you have appropriate footwear and clothing with you to cope with any weather and ground conditions that might be met.

Circular walk starting in Great Warford

Taking in areas of Chorley and Mobberley. It can be muddy in sections if the weather is unkind.

Starting at 10.00 am prompt from 8 Buttermere Drive, Great Warford. Parking is a bit restricted, if you can car share it will help!

Post Code: **SK9 7WA**; OS Grid Ref: **SJ 808 773**

Length: 7 miles

Grade: Flat

Further information: Packed lunch with drinks needed.

Contact Chris Sweetman (01565 889 057) with any questions.

CHRISTIAN AID GOING FORWARD

It is with some regret that I have put the following in front of the PCC for their information/ approval.

I feel it is no longer viable for St Mary's to send out door to door Collectors this year. There are two main reasons. One the increasing age group of our collector's and increasing health issues with several of the stalwarts, who having collected for many years, though willing are more frequently unable. Also we have had no newer members of the team for a number of years.

Secondly the general public are increasingly unwilling to be disturbed or contribute at the door. This is by all means not the general reception we get but it does mean that the households that contribute as against those that don't, is a much smaller proportion.

Thirdly I need to consider the wisdom of individuals collecting without a Buddy. I for one have found myself in some difficult situations and have been very grateful I was not alone.

So I want to thank the scores of St Mary's Congregation that have been members of the collector's team over the many years that a team has gone out. Your generosity of time and Spirit has made a meaningful contribution to other's in need of help, to get started on self help programs promoted by Christian Aid. Thank you all so much. I hope you will all continue to Support Christian Aid through whatever means you can.

I am hoping to be running a plant sale with Lynn Smith again this year, hosted by the Methodist Church on the Saturday of the Music Festival. All our proceeds will go to Christian Aid.

I also propose to continue to have envelopes in Church during Christian Aid week.

Should any St Mary's collector feel the wish to continue to collect I will be happy to put them in touch with the Churches Together organizer.

Please phone me with any queries.

Fiona Ablett. 01625 585180

Churches Together in Alderley invite you to The Road Goes Ever On' in Lent

Christian discipleship through the eyes of St.Mark, the Book of Exodus and The Lord of the Rings. From 6th March to 5th April.

Mondays at 10.30am at St.Philip & St.James Church, Alderley Edge.

Wednesdays at 7.30pm at Alderley Edge Methodist Church.

All welcome: just turn up.

The Celebration of the Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary is Saturday 25th March

One of the 'red letter days' in the church year is the annual celebration of the Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary. 25th March is the day – also known as Lady Day. Holy Communion will be celebrated at St.Mary's Church on 25th March at 10am. All are welcome. Read about The Annunciation at Luke's Gospel, chapter 1, verses 26 to 38.

Mothering Sunday is 26th March

The Fourth Sunday in Lent is Mothering Sunday. The origins of Mothering Sunday are lost in the mists of time, but the Spring flowers at this time make for lovely posies that are traditionally given to mothers in church on this day.

So come to St.Mary's Church at 9.45am for a Family Service with posies to be given to mothers.

Easter Flowers

If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the Lillies and Easter Flowers in Church in memory of loved ones please place your donation in an envelope with your name and the names of those to be remembered clearly written on the outside. Envelopes to be handed to Michael Penlington or placed in the appropriate box just inside the entrance to the Church. Cheques to be made payable to; 'Alderley Church Flower Fund'

A list of loved ones to be remembered will be put in Church and published in the Parish Magazine. Michael Penlington

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB January draw winners

1st prize Sarah Jane Wilkinson
2nd prize Jenny Youatt
3rd prize Ines Jamieson

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.

A total of £3275 has now been handed over to St Mary's treasurer, towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

ALDERLEY EDGE BIBLE STUDIES 2016 / 2017

Why do bad things happen to good people? A Problem of Suffering in the Book of Job

led by Philip Alexander

All welcome: all you need is an enquiring mind (and a Bible!)
We meet on the first Monday of the month EXCEPT those starred **

Mon March 6th Parish Rooms The Hymn to Wisdom
Job's concluding defence

Mon 8th May St Philips Parish Rooms The Voice of Youth
The Speeches of Elihu

Monday 5th June St Philips Parish Rooms The Voice of God:
The Speeches of Yahweh

Monday 3rd July St Philips Parish Rooms The Book of Job
And the Problems of Suffering

MEETING TIME: 7.30pm – 9.30pm
CONTACT: Loveday Alexander (0161 439 7946)

The season of Lent, and Easter

Lent is the name traditionally given to the season before Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year is 1st March.

St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley in Lent

On Ash Wednesday Holy Communion will be celebrated at St.Mary's Church at 10am. You are welcome to attend this service.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Thursday at St.Mary's Church at 10am. All welcome.

During Holy Week (the week before Easter) there will be Holy Communion at 10am on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. All welcome.

St.Catherine's Church, Birtles: special services in Lent

St.Catherine's Church, Birtles joins in a special service every Wednesday evening in Lent, held at different parish churches in the parishes of Birtles and to the south of Birtles. The services are at 7.30pm every Wednesday. You are welcome to attend these services, most of which will be Evensong with a sermon preached by clergy of the parish churches involved – this year on the theme of 'Christian Heroes'.

The services will be:

- Weds 1st March at St.James & St.Philip's Church, Marton
 - Weds 8th March at Christ Church, Eaton
 - Weds 15th March at St.Catherine's Church, Birtles
 - Weds 22nd March at All Saints' Church, Siddington
 - Weds 29th March at St.Peter's Church, Lower Withington
- Weds 5th April at St.Michael's Church, Hulme Walfield
You are welcome to attend these services.

Good Friday (14th April)

On Good Friday – the Day of Our Lord's Crucifixion- join with all the churches in Alderley at Alderley Edge Methodist Church at 10.30am for worship, followed by a Walk of Witness through the village following a cross to St.Philip & St.James Church, Alderley Edge. All are welcome.

At St.Catherine's Church, Birtles all are welcome to the Good Friday service at 2pm for an hour.

Easter Day (16th April)

Easter Day services will be at the usual Sunday service times at St.Mary's Church and St.Catherine's Church.



Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 3rd March 2016

2.00pm

Alderley Edge Methodist Church

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 2017 has been written by the Christian women from the Phillipines on the theme of justice.