

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

8th October Bridget Kershaw-Staines

Weddings

14th October Abigail Matthews / Philip Hilldrup

15th October Alicia Roebuck / Julian Hinchcliffe

Funerals

:2nd October Mrs Joyce Garlick @ Macclesfield Crematorium.

FLOWER ROTA

Nov 5th

Nov 12th Remembrance Sunday

Nov 19th

Nov 26th

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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& Distribution: Peter Bean: 01625 582073

Large format copies of the magazine are available.

Rector Writes

November 2017

The Rector writes about the Holocaust – and the European Union

When I was in Kyiv recently, a place I wanted to see was Babyn Yar. This is the ravine where the city's Jews were killed in 1941. During the Nazi occupation at least 100,000 people were killed at Babyn Yar. The circumstances of the Holocaust were such that when the Germans occupied a country in Europe, its police and people were willing participants in the slaughter of the nation's Jews, Roma, disabled, homosexual, mentally ill. As one Jewish writer put it in a book about the Holocaust published five years ago: 'Christians forgot their second commandment – love your neighbour'.

We found a memorial to a concentration camp for those who were to be taken to Babyn Yar to be shot. We could see that people were walking in the direction of a newly made promenade. A memorial stone stated that this was the path that was taken by those who died at Babyn Yar 1941 to 1943. We walked past a mother and her two primary school age children: as they strolled along, she was teaching them the English alphabet. Now that Ukraine has a pro-Western president and government, the English language will be seen as a desirable skill for young Ukrainians. We came to a flat, open paved area where family groups were seated, eating picnics and ice cream. This would have been the place where those who were to be shot in the ravine would have been assembled before being taken to the place of their death.

In 2014, in the 'Maidan' demonstrations, 100 people died on the streets of Kyiv for the sake of Ukraine having a chance of joining the EU. Why would they do that? Throughout Europe there are memorials to the Holocaust. Everywhere that Nazi Germany occupied, they had transit camps, concentration camps, labour camps, shooting sites, death camps, crematoria, mass graves. These places are part of the fabric of Europe – if no longer physically visible, then present in memory and memorials.

The European Union is the European project to prevent such a thing happening again. That is why - in the face of Brexit - the EU is fighting to maintain its identity, unity and purpose – and why Ukraine wants to join. In the UK we don't have memory or memorials of the Holocaust in the same way, and so we have a different understanding of the EU. This is also to name the unacceptable climate in current politics in the Western world in which political leaders encourage division within their own nation and give permission by their own language and actions for violence to be done to those with whom they disagree. We forget at our peril the second Christian commandment: 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself'.

Jon Hale

DIARY NOVEMBER 2017

Thurs 2nd 10,00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun.5th Twenty First 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

Thurs 9th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun 12th Twenty Second Sunday after Trinity
10.30am Remembrance Service at Alderley
10.45am Remembrance at Birtles

6.30pm Holy Communion at Alderley (said)
 Thurs 16th 10.00am Holy Communion

Sun. 19th Twenty Third 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

Thurs 23rd 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun 26th Sunday next before Advent
 9.45am Mattins at Alderley
 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles

6.30pm Evensong at Alderley
 Thurs 30th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

ROTA FOR NOVEMBER 2017
SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
Nov 5th	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45am	Mrs W Liddle & Mr A Claridge	Mrs W Liddle	MP
	6.30pm		Mr P Reynolds	PR
Nov 12th	10.30a	Mr G Hilton & Mrs E Jackson	Mrs A. Davis	MP
	6.30pm		Mr T Fones	TF
Nov 19th	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mr G Woolley & Mrs M Woolley	Mrs J Lee	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A Robinson	Mrs A Robinson	JY
Nov 26th	9.45am	Mrs R Dyas & Mr M Stonehewer	Mrs M Stonehewer	MP
	6.30am	Mr G Barrie	Mr M Dyer	PR
	9.45am			
	6.30pm			

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.

RINGING OUT THE FAITH

by Miss Winifred Dawson (1928—2015)

You will hear them on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings and Tuesday nights - St. Mary's bells pealing across the fields, hedges and lanes of the parish of Alderley. Swinging high in the sandstone tower, ringing out their message loud and clear. Ringing across the years in joyful times and sad. In semi-darkness, by torch and candlelight when storm and power cuts plunged the church into gloom.

Of the six bells ringing today, five date from 1787 and the sixth from 1847.

They rang in days long since gone, the days of Quebec and Waterloo, days of national rejoicing and thankfulness and of sorrow. In our own day, at the end of the European War and the War in the Far East; on great state occasions, the Coronation, the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Royal weddings, for television broad-casts and for the release of Terry Waite from captivity. They have rung for countless St. Mary weddings with a joyous clamour; they have rung for the passing of our loved ones, muffled, solemn, measured. They have rung each Christmas to remind the careless and the unaware of the greatest gift ever given to our world. They have rung on New Year's Eve, their sound going out across dark fields to the farthest bounds of the parish, welcoming in the New Year under starlit midnight skies with a message of hope for the coming year, and many anxious, troubled hearts have heard and listened and been filled again with belief and expectation. They were silent only through the years of the War, 1939—1945, when the sound of church bells would have heralded invasion by enemy forces. A silence which was broken only once, when they rang after the evacuation from Dunkirk of so many thousands of British and allied troops, and the nation gave thanks to God for their safe return.

All down the generations, men and women, young and old, have climbed the twisting, worn stone steps to the ringing chamber. Many a nervous boy and girl has taken the sally in trembling hands for the first time, under the patient and watchful eye of the Captain of the Tower. And so has started out on a life-time of campanology, ringing out the faith, and they will go on doing so, Sunday after Sunday, year after year; on days of national rejoicing or national mourning. The old grey tower which shelters the bells, and which itself bears on its south wall the scars of musket and cannon ball, some say from the time of the Civil War, will continue to resound to the clamour high above.

The following prayer now hangs on the wall of the ringing chamber. It was offered up every Sunday during the years 1951—1960 by the then Rector, Kenneth Parsons, who climbed the steps to the assembled ringers before each service. *"O Lord, may the sound of these bells cheer the sick, comfort the sorrowful, warn the heedless and call all willing hearts to prayer and praise"*.

St. Mary's bells still ring out the faith of the Church, and as we enter our eighth century, joyful will be the sound thereof.

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 is held on Wednesdays at St. Catherine's Church, Birtles at 8.45am. All welcome.

COLLECTION TOTALS

Week ending	Gift Aid Envelopes	Non-Gift Aid & Misc Cash	Standing Orders	Total
Sept 3rd	282.01	68.40		350.41
Sept 10 th	130.00	17.50		147.50
Sep 17th	166.15	63.00		229.15
Sep 24 th	219.35	41.90		261.25
TOTAL	797.51	190.80	1626.00	2614.31

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

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB September draw winners

1 st prize	Roslyn Dutch
2 nd prize	Charles Dyas
3 rd prize	Margaret Worthington

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 £4000 has now been handed over to St Mary's treasurer, towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

Thank you to all participants!!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

(continued)

Thank you for your support at the morning Coffee. It enables us to continue support of chosen charities in a small way.

The Social Committee are planning for the Christmas Fair, Saturday December 2nd.

10.00 am until approx. 1.00pm. The Barnby Choir will sing for us in the church. We are indebted to them for coming again. Please try to support this. We are asking again for Gifts for the stall, and items for the cake and produce stall. We will need some attractive Raffle prizes.

In the meantime one or two people are helping Rector with the Carers Service.

Janet Adamson 01625 583320.

Walking

A group of friends from St Mary's are going for a walk on the **9th December** 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.

Location park in bells O Peover car park

Grid ref SJ742741 **post code** WA16 9PZ

Length 6.7 miles

Terrain easy/medium

Total ascent 251 feet

Bring packed lunch and note it may be a little muddy in places

Contact Terry Fones 01625 820738

Mob 07815478544

Drinks afterwards in the Bells o Peover

17th Farndon parish. Please pray for all those involved in our third Christmas tree festival and for opportunities to share the good news of the Gospel.

18th Handley parish.

19th The persecuted church. Syria and Iraq are in crisis. War and Islamic extremism have caused millions to flee, while millions of others are displaced in the region, struggling to survive, often too poor or unwell to leave. Christians face the added threat of being targeted by Islamic extremists, who are determined to eradicate the church from the Middle East. And yet many of our brothers and sisters are choosing to stay and serve their communities. Pray for Christians in the Middle East.

20th Hargrave parish.

21st Malpas and Threapwood parish.

22nd Marbury parish. Please pray for a new focus on mission.

23rd Shocklach parish.

24th Tarporley parish. We ask for your prayers for all three of our churches that we would see a deepening of discipleship and a growth in numbers and joy.

25th Tattenhall parish.

26th The Reign of Christ. The Sunday before Advent is the Feast of Christ the King. Pray 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

27th Tilstone Fearnall parish.

28th Tilston parish.

29th Tushingham parish. Please pray that our church family would be strengthened. Pray for the children, staff and governors of our church school.

30th Waverton parish.

A Deanery is a group of parishes. There are 18 Deaneries in Chester Diocese. The benefice of Alderley & Birtles lies within Knutsford Deanery. The other parishes in Knutsford Deanery are: Chelford; Alderley Edge; High Legh; Knutsford St. Cross; Knutsford St. John the Baptist; Lindow; Lower Peover; Marthall; Mobberley; Over Peover; Over Tabley; Rostherne with Bollington; Toft; and Wilmslow.

Diocesan Prayer Intentions for November

The Benefice of Alderley & Birtles lies within the Diocese of Chester and the Deanery of Knutsford. Throughout the year, on a daily basis, you are invited to hold in prayer all aspects of Diocesan life in Christ. This is the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer.

November 2017

1st Gatley parish. Please pray for the children's services and for Sunday Club, and for ministry in local schools.

2nd Handforth parish.

3rd Heald Green parish. Please pray for the people of our parish and for God's guidance during the vacancy and encouragement for Church Council members.

4th Poynton parish.

5th Please pray for coaches and consultants in mission and ministry within our church.

6th Woodford parish. Please pray for our mission to the large number of houses to be built in the parish.

7th Malpas Deanery.

8th Aldford parish.

9th Bickerton parish.

10th Bickley parish.

11th Bruera parish.

12th Remembrance Sunday. Pray for all those whose lives continue to be blighted by war.

13th The See of Chester. Peter Forster was consecrated as Bishop of Chester on this day in 1996. Offer thanks and pray for Bishop Peter's continuing ministry amongst us.

14th Bunbury parish.

15th Burwardsley parish.

16th Coddington parish. Please pray for our church school, its staff, governors and the children in the lead-up to Advent.

The Rector writes about Oasis in Gorton

Oasis is a charity that is supported by St.Mary's Church and St.Catherine's Church and personally by a number of people associated with the two parish churches. At Harvest Festival at both churches on Sunday 1st October donations of food – non-perishable food and fruit & veg – were brought and left at the altar. Some items for babies were also brought.

On the following Wednesday I took all these harvest festival donations to Oasis. Oasis is a drop-in centre in a former Methodist Church in Gorton, in east Manchester. The project is run by Victoria Armstrong, who established Oasis in 2001 in response to a clear call from God to do so. Oasis is a Christian-based charity that serves the needs of people who are left out of the contemporary world:

Oasis demonstrates practically that God loves those who are regarded as the least among us. Many people served by Oasis avoided school and thus lack language and number skills. Mental health issues are often present and this may be part of a syndrome of unemployment, low self-esteem, lack of education and abusive upbringing. Cultures of gang membership, drugs and anti-social behaviour are ways of coping with alienation, and Oasis is there for those who seek help.

Crisis intervention, support and education are all part of what Oasis does. Education is a gradual process of teaching the basics, including computer skills and history, and helping clients understand the nature of the modern world, the context of the benefits system and the opportunities that lie in getting off benefits and into regular work.

Thank you for your gifts for Oasis at Harvest Festival. Donations of non-perishable food may be left at St.Mary's Church: frequent trips are made to Oasis to deliver them. This is a vital part of sustaining the daily work of Oasis: the provision of free meals to people who are destitute.

Find out more at <http://oasisgorton.org/needhelp/>

Elizabeth married Philip – 70 years ago

Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth II) married Philip Duke of Edinburgh at Westminster Abbey 70 years ago, on 20th November 1947. They have reached their Platinum Anniversary.

Many Congratulations!!

CHURCH OPENING

Our Sunday afternoon opening season has now come to an end, although we still welcome any visitors by appointment. Also behind the scenes is a constant stream of Family History enquires that come in over email. In the main I am able to help them and provide them with the information they require. We also run an 'online shop' which brings in a few extra pounds each year.

From Easter Sunday through to Sunday 1st October this year, we have raised around £400, welcoming approximately 330 visitors throughout the season.

A particular thanks must go to the volunteer stewards who man the church Sunday by Sunday. If you feel you could spare a few hours a month to help us with this task, do please let me know!

Jenny Youatt



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday December 2nd 10.00am – 12.30pm

Barnby Choir singing at
10.30am and 11.45am in Church

Wine and Mince Pies after 11.45 singing

Please come and join in

MOTHERS' UNION



'My Life and Ministry'

by Rev. Michael Burgess

Wednesday 15th November

2.00pm

All Welcome



ADVANCED NOTICE



MOTHERS' UNION

'The Eclipse 2017'

by Chris Sweetmen

followed by 'A Christmas Quiz'

by Jamie and Lynn Smith

Wednesday 13th December

1.30pm

All Welcome

The Revd Jon Hale recently visited Ukraine

his third visit in the last 7 years.

On Tuesday 21st November at 7.30pm come to St.Philip & St.James Church, Alderley Edge when Jon will speak on:

AN ENGLISH VICAR IN UKRAINE

The church heating will be on – and you are asked to make a donation at the evening to cover the cost of the heating for the evening.

Jon has a lifelong interest in the Russian lands. Seven years ago he took up an invitation to visit western Ukraine with a friend from schooldays who is an experienced lone traveller in Eastern Europe. Travelling by train, bus and tram, Jon has been 'off the tourist trail' in western Ukraine and in the capital city – Kyiv. Jon will speak about the history of Russia and Ukraine, and life and faith in Ukraine, illustrated with his photos.

All welcome – bring your neighbours and friends.