

*FROM THE REGISTERS*

*Baptisms*

24th September Ralph Whittaker and Imogen Whittaker

*Weddings*

2nd September Jennifer Corris and Ben Dougal

30th September Sarah Sharp and Richard Hill

*Funerals*

5th September Derek Antony Cox (Memorial Service)

12th September Marion Seddon

25th September Geoffrey Duncan Boddington (Thanksgiving)

**FLOWER ROTA**

Oct 1st Harvest

Oct 8th Harvest

Oct 15th Wedding

Oct 22nd Jean Lee

Oct 29th Jean Lee

**MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday October 19th**

Please send all copy to:

Editorial: Jenny Youatt Email: [info@stmarysaldlerley.com](mailto: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

October 2017

### The Rector writes about the Glory of God

On 6<sup>th</sup> August the church celebrated the event known as the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took with him three of his disciples and they climbed a mountain. On the summit Jesus's appearance changed and he was seen in his heavenly glory. The disciples were afraid. They knew that the identity of Jesus was as they had come to believe: Son of Man and Son of God. You can read it in Matthew 17: 1-8 and the parallels in Mark and Luke.

This year the 6<sup>th</sup> of August was a Sunday. At St.Mary's Church and St.Catherine's Church we reflected on the account of the Transfiguration and we took time to think about the glory of God.

### Another festival of the glory of God

It's now the Autumn, and Autumn leads to Christmas, which is another festival of the glory of God. 'The shepherds were out in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. An angel of the Lord stood by them and the glory of God shone around them; and they were sore afraid'. (Luke 2: 8-9).

Why should glory be a cause of fear? At St.Mary's and St.Catherine's Churches we thought about glory and what it means: winning, success. But the meaning of the glory of God is different. In the Old Testament the glory of God is the weight and power of God's authority and righteousness. Only in the New Testament do words with meanings of 'brightness' and 'majesty' come into play to also describe God's glory.

In the background of all of the many mentions of 'the glory of God' in the Bible is the account at the beginning of the Old Testament in which God summons Moses to meet him on the mountain top. (Exodus 33: 18-23). Moses is warned to hide so that he may not see the glory of God, otherwise he will surely die. The visible, outward appearance of the weighty authority of God was too much for a mere mortal to bear. But in the New Testament (which is the new revelation of Jesus Christ) the disciples, afraid though they were to be brought into the presence of God's glory – nevertheless, see God's glory in Jesus Christ. They survive and their faith is strengthened.

In the same way, God's glory was shown to mortal men and women at the birth of Jesus. They were afraid, but they survived – and the shepherds left the manger 'glorifying and praising God'. (Luke 2:20). The Christian belief is that in Christ we all may have a personal faith – that Christ may be born in each one of us – that the glory of God may be seen in us. Christian belief also understands that as Jesus Christ was 'transfigured' in his earthly life, so those of us who are 'in Christ' will be transfigured into glory at our death.

### On a mountain top

At St.Mary's Church we also reflected together on our own experiences of climbing a mountain and standing on the summit. Unprompted, a number of those present spoke eloquently of the transfiguring experience!

**DIARY FOR OCTOBER 2017**

**Sun.1st Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
 8.00am Holy Communion at Birtles  
 9.45am Harvest Festival at Alderley  
 11.15am Harvest Festival at Birtles  
 6.30pm Harvest Evensong at Alderley  
 Thurs 5th 10,00am Holy Communion at Alderley

**Sun 8th Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**  
 9.45am Family Service with Baptism at Alderley  
 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles  
 6.30pm Holy Communion at Alderley (said)  
 Thurs 12th 10.00am Holy Communion

**Sun. 15th Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
 8.00am Holy Communion at Alderley  
 9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley  
 11.15am Mattins at Birtles  
 2.00pm Holy Matrimony at Alderley  
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley  
 Thurs 19th 10.00am Holy Communion

**Sun 22nd Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
 9.45am Mattins at Alderley  
 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles  
**3.00pm Caring for Carers at Alderley**  
 Thurs 26th 10.00am Holy Communion

**Sun 29th Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**  
 9.45am Holy Communion at Alderley  
 11.15am Holy Communion at Birtles  
 6.30pm Evensong at Alderley

**ROTA FOR OCTOBER 2017**  
**SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS**

| D'T                  | TIME   | SIDESPEOPLE                       | LECTOR           | W' |
|----------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|------------------|----|
| Oct 1st              | 8.00am | (at Birtles)                      |                  |    |
|                      | 9.45am | Mr G Hilton & Mrs W Liddle        | Mrs W Liddle     | MP |
|                      | 6.30pm | Mrs A Robinson                    | Mr P Reynolds    | PR |
| Oct 8th              | 9.45am | Mr A Claridge & Mr J Ratchford    | Master G Vardon  | MP |
|                      | 6.30pm |                                   | Mr T Fones       | TF |
| Oct 15 <sup>th</sup> | 8.00am |                                   |                  | HW |
|                      | 9.45am | Mr S Welsh & Mrs G Beeley         | Mrs A Davis      | MP |
|                      | 6.30pm | Mr M Dyer                         | Mr M Dyer        | JY |
| Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 9.45am | Mr M Stonehewer & Mrs E Fairhurst | Mrs M Stonehewer | MP |
|                      | 3.00pm | Mrs A Robinson                    | Mrs A Robinson   | JY |
| Oct 29 <sup>th</sup> | 9.45am | Mrs J Martin & Mr M Wilkinson     | Mrs SJ Wilkinson | MP |
|                      | 6.30pm | Mrs L Kershaw                     | Mr P Kershaw     | 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.

## Uncle Eustice.....On the perils of parking near church

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I cannot be wholly sympathetic because your church car park is now inadequate, only having space for 100 cars. Your solution of advising members of the congregation to park in the adjoining supermarket car park may not have been wise. The maximum time people can stop there is 90 minutes, and as your sermons alone often reach that length, returning to find their cars clamped may not make you universally popular – although it may give your congregation the opportunity of practising Christian forgiveness.

Since the medieval architect who built St. James the Least was not overly concerned with car parking, the only space we have is along the road by the church. Inevitably, it gets blocked, which causes us all immense satisfaction when those not attending church but intending to have a morning shopping, find themselves unable to get out of the village until Mattins is over.

I did once encourage people to walk to church across the fields, but when the present Earl of Stowe started to get his staff to lay waterproof sheeting along the paths so he could avoid getting mud on his shoes, I decided the idea was best dropped.

For most, the inconvenience of parking only makes attending church more of a pleasurable challenge; we so enjoy having something to complain about. Major Hastings, however, who has complained endlessly about parking problems, made a point last Christmas by leaving his car in the middle of the vicarage lawn. I was so pleased he happened to park just where I had had a garden pond filled in only the previous week. He returned to find that the car had sunk up the windscreen and needed a crane to remove it. And it would have made a charming garden feature; I could even picture it with garden gnomes on its roof.

For weddings, a farmer allows us to use the field adjoining the church. While he rarely attends church on Sundays, he is always there the week before – I suspect praying for heavy rain, so he can make a fortune charging to tow out with his tractor those who have got stuck. Perhaps the greatest act of witness your church could perform would be to get everyone attending church to park on the ring road, bringing the entire town to a halt until your three hour Sunday morning Service is over.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

## Email addresses

The email address of the Office at The Rectory is [alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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          |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> July  | 197.00             | 114.60                   |                 | 311.60         |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> July  | 243.55             | 45.27                    |                 | 288.82         |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> July | 378.00             | 41.00                    |                 | 419.00         |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> July | 175.00             | 40.40                    |                 | 215.40         |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> July | 241.50             | 362.90*                  |                 | 604.40         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b>1235.05</b>     | <b>509.17</b>            | <b>1256.00</b>  | <b>3000.22</b> |

\*includes £267.90 from wedding on 29<sup>th</sup> July

| Week Ending          | Gift Aid Envelopes | Non-Gift Aid & Misc Cash | Standing Orders | Total          |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Aug  | 191.50             | 28.00                    |                 | 219.50         |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug | 304.00             | 76.94                    |                 | 380.94         |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> Aug | 304.00             | 49.50                    |                 | 353.50         |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> Aug | 125.50             | 27.14                    |                 | 152.64         |
|                      |                    |                          |                 |                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>925.00</b>      | <b>181.58</b>            | <b>961.00</b>   | <b>2067.58</b> |

Donald Henderson Tel 01625 584008 or email [orchardmain@ntlworld.com](mailto:orchardmain@ntlworld.com)

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Everything is getting back to normal after the summer.

We had a successful Summer Lunch outing on August 22nd at Woodford Park. GC.29 people joined in. By reports everybody enjoyed the occasion. It was a chance to catch up with friends.

Our next Social Committee meeting is on October 12th. We are wondering if anybody feels they would like to join us. Sadly, for many reasons our original number is depleted. It is 16 years since the new Committee was formed. Age is also catching us. We need more help with new ideas. It has been suggested to me maybe the thought of some small Social get togethers would be nice. Without help this is not feasible. If you have any thoughts on this please let me know.

Having had a coffee morning break during August, it is up and running again now.

The next major event is the Christmas Coffee morning on December 2nd. Please put in your diaries and support it. I realise this is early but it will arrive.

Janet Adamson 01625 583320.

## Walking

A group of friends from St Mary's are going for a walk on the 4th November 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.

This is a linear walk from **Chinley to Edale**

We start by meeting at 09:30 in the car park at Edale or Edale railway station to get the 09:48 train to Chinley.

Rail fare is £3.80 or £2.50 with a Rail Card.

Parking in Edale is Pay and Display. Believed to be £4.50 per day

Railway Station OS Grid Ref: **SK 123 853; The Village Hall next to the car park is post code S33 7ZA**

Length: 8/8.5 miles

Grade: Strenuous walk with 1500 feet of ascent in gradual manner. Route: Chinley, White Knows Farm, Shireoaks, Pennie Bridalway, Green Low, Sheepfold, Edale.

Further information: Packed lunch and snacks with plenty drinks is essential, especially if a warm or hot day.

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

14<sup>th</sup> Norley parish

15<sup>th</sup> New Readers. Readers are lay people, called by God, trained and licensed by the Church to preach, teach, lead worship and assist in pastoral, evangelistic and liturgical work. Please pray for those who will be admitted and licensed as Reader in the Cathedral on 21 October, and for the ministries that they are beginning.

16<sup>th</sup> Norton parish

17<sup>th</sup> Runcorn All Saints parish

18<sup>th</sup> Runcorn Holy Trinity parish

19<sup>th</sup> Runcorn Weston St. John parish

20<sup>th</sup> Runcorn St. Michael & All Angels parish

21<sup>st</sup> Thornton-le-Moors with Ince & Elton parish

22<sup>nd</sup> Quiet Time. Spend time with God reading and meditating on the Bible with an appropriate explanation of the context and relevance of the Bible passage that you are reading. 'Daily Bread' published by Scripture Union is particularly helpful. <http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk/ecards/dailybread/>

23<sup>rd</sup> Crowton parish

24<sup>th</sup> Runcorn St. Chad's Roman Catholic / Church of England High School

25<sup>th</sup> Cheadle Deanery

26<sup>th</sup> Bramhall parish

27<sup>th</sup> Cheadle All Hallows parish

28<sup>th</sup> Cheadle St. Mary parish

29<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther. On All Hallows' Eve, Saturday 31 October 1517 and 'out of love for the truth and from a desire to elucidate it' the Reverend Father Martin Luther, already a professor of theology at thirty three, walked to the Castle church in Wittenberg and attached his ninety-five theses to the door. Pray for understanding and joint working by Christians of all traditions.

30<sup>th</sup> Cheadle Hulme All Saints parish

## Diocesan Prayer Intentions for October

The Benefice of Alderley & Birtles lies within the Diocese of Chester. 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.

### October 2017

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the first Earth Satellite. Sixty years ago – 4<sup>th</sup> October 1957 – the Soviet Union successfully launched Sputnik 1 – the world's first artificial satellite of Earth. There is a lot of co-operation now between scientists of all nationalities and we continue to hope and pray that those who work for peace and friendship will always have the upper hand.

2<sup>nd</sup> Whaley Bridge parish

3<sup>rd</sup> Mellor parish

4<sup>th</sup> Frodsham Deanery. A Deanery is a group of parishes. There are 18 Deaneries in Chester Diocese. The benefice of Alderley & Birtles lies within Knutsford Deanery.

5<sup>th</sup> Alvanley & Manley parish

6<sup>th</sup> Dunham-on-the-Hill parish

7<sup>th</sup> Frodsham parish

8<sup>th</sup> Marking Reformation 500. As we commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation we acknowledge both the good that came out of that period of our history as well as the pain that was inflicted and the scars that remain. Pray that the churches of our land may honour each other. <http://www.reformation500.uk/anniversary.htm>

9<sup>th</sup> Grange parish

10<sup>th</sup> Hallwood Ecumenical parish

11<sup>th</sup> Halton parish

12<sup>th</sup> Helsby parish

13<sup>th</sup> Kingsley parish

## **NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB** **August draw winners**

|                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> prize | Mr Christopher Harrison |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> prize | Mrs Rachel Mogg         |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> prize | Mrs Stephanie Wilkinson |

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!!**

### **Service times in the benefice and Baptism**

It is now ten months since I was instituted to Alderley and Birtles by Bishop Peter, and it has taken time for me to get used to the rhythms and patterns of life and worship.

Baptism at both St.Catherine's Church and St.Mary's Church is offered both during the monthly Family Service and after the main morning services. At least once a month a Baptism takes place either at 12.30pm at St.Catherine's Church or at 12.40pm at St.Mary's Church.

Starting this month, Baptisms may be held at 12.30pm / 12.40pm on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays of the month.

So that I am taking a maximum of three services on a Sunday morning, there will be an 8am Holy Communion service in the benefice on only the first and third Sundays of the month: first Sunday at St.Catherine's Church and third Sunday at St.Mary's Church.

The Family Service is held at St.Catherine's Church usually on the first Sunday of the month at 11.15am.

The Family Service is held at St.Mary's Church usually on the second and fifth Sundays of the month at 9.45am.

Please contact me on 01625 585440 to enquire about Baptism.

## Harvest Festival at St.Mary's Church

### COME TO HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST.MARY'S CHURCH ON SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER.

**The Morning Service on 1<sup>st</sup> October at 9.45am will be an all-age Family Service lasting about 45 minutes.** Please bring your donations of non-perishable food for the Oasis Project in Manchester. Read about Oasis at: <http://oasisgorton.org/>

**After the 9.45am Harvest Service, the Harvest Brunch** will once again be held in the Parish Hall offering bacon butties and continental items - croissants, danish pastries, hams, cheeses and fruit. Tickets are priced at £6.00 per person, and available from Maureen Woolley, Sally Hilldrup, Gail Hodgett, Mark & Sarah-Jane Wilkinson, Alison Boddington, Cordelia & Tracy Robinson and Juliana Maynard or email [jubilee@alderleychurch.co.uk](mailto:jubilee@alderleychurch.co.uk)

**The Evening Service on 1<sup>st</sup> October at 6.30pm will be the traditional evening service of Evensong, lasting about 45 minutes.**

**The Church will be decorated for Harvest Festival** by the able and faithful St.Mary's Church Flower Team. The church will be open throughout the afternoon of 1<sup>st</sup> October as well as at service times.

### Caring for the Carers: Sunday 22 October at St.Mary's Church at 3.00pm

Increasingly we are an ageing population, and consequently an increasing number of people will need care and/or will be carers. The task of caring for a spouse, family member or friend is demanding and often unsupported. A 'Caring for the Carers' service will be held on Sunday 22 October at 3pm for carers – about 40 minutes - followed by tea and cake in the Parish Hall. In this is a simple act of worship and prayer the task of caring will be acknowledged, and carers – and those for whom they care – will be prayed for. All are welcome.

Please note that there is limited access for people who use wheelchairs in the Parish Hall and there is not a mobility WC. See the article elsewhere in this edition of the magazine for news of progress with the Parish Hall project. Please contact me on 01625 585440 to find out more about the 'Caring for the Carers' service. This will be a benefice service: St.Mary's Church Alderley and St.Catherine's Church Birtles working together.

## OASIS CENTRE

Its been another year of record breaking numbers at The Oasis Centre. We are helping more people and seeing more broken lives restored. Wonderful!

Every morning before we open our doors, there is a queue of 8-10 people waiting for support. Usually, within ½ hour our crisis team is fully booked. In a typical week, we help people struggling with exploitation, crushing debt, gang intimidation, mental health difficulties, physical and sexual abuse, self-harm, disability, serious illness, drug and alcohol abuse, immigration and asylum issues, poverty and hunger, eviction and homelessness, and domestic violence.

Even though our support starts as crisis intervention, it does not end there. We may be the first place that someone comes to for help, but our support is not limited to times of crisis. We provide ongoing care and practical help which enables people to rebuild their lives.

One of the ways we can help our clients find stability is through our charity shop. Through generous shop donations from Oasis supporters we have been able to provide clothing packs to families and individuals in desperate need.

Our charity shop also offers our clients affordable clothing and household items to alleviate poverty and stops people pursuing loan sharks to meet their basic needs.

And finally our charity shop helps pay for our rent which provides sustainability for our charity. Result!

As we move into our 17th year at the centre we are in desperate need for donations for our charity shop as numbers of people we are supporting continues to increase.

I have attached a poster with the items we are in need of for our charity shop and emergency provision. Could you advertise our need in your Church, business or organisation and help us reach more people with this vital support?

Donations can be dropped off at our centre on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday between 8.30am and 2.30pm.

Many thanks for your support, we couldn't do it without you!

Victoria