

THE MAGAZINE OF ST CHAD'S PARISH CHURCH LADYBARN



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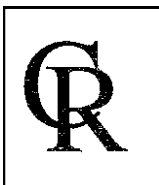
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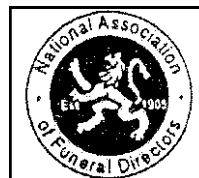
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Letter from the PCC Secretary

It is important that we give anyone applying to be our new priest a clear picture of the style of worship at St Chad's – our "churchmanship" to use an old fashioned term. The main feature is, of course, that the principal Sunday service is the Parish Eucharist. Applicants will also want to know that the president wears vestments, incense is used on major festivals and there is Reserved Sacrament – that is, consecrated bread and wine is always available in Church. This style of worship is called "liberal catholic" in ecclesiastical jargon.

Worshipping in this way grew out of the work of the Parish Communion Movement in the first half of the 20th Century. This focussed on the importance of the Eucharist as a shared act of worship at which all received the sacrament. This became very popular in the Church of England and a parish communion on a Sunday morning came to be seen as the norm. However, there are wide variations in the way the communion service is done and the way that individual worshippers may feel about it.

Possibly the most inspiring Eucharist I have ever attended was at St James, Piccadilly in London on Easter Day some years ago. I still vividly remember two things from a very well stage-managed service. Immediately after the president had given the formal greeting at the beginning of the service, she asked everyone in the congregation to talk to somebody they didn't know for a few minutes. At the Offertory the whole congregation joined the Offertory Procession and stood around the Sanctuary, only returning to our seats when we had received our communion.

A couple of years ago I texted our three sons with the message "Mum and Dad are at St Pancras, the church not the station!" We had gone with high expectations of the parish communion at St Pancras but it was a great disappointment. St Pancras has a semi-professional choir who sang the Gloria, the Creed, the Sanctus and Benedictus, and the Agnus Dei. They sang it very beautifully using a setting by Palestrina which the congregation could not join in with. This made me feel I was at a concert not a service, in an audience not a congregation, and observing rather than participating.

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The Rector:
Vacancy

Churchwarden:
Judith Fletcher
5 Brecon Avenue
Burnage
Manchester
M19 2NJ
Tel: 248 7689

Churchwarden:
Jenny Black
4 Holcombe Road
Fallowfield
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Lay Reader:
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Lay Reader:
Helen Reid
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In complete contrast, the most thought provoking occasion was a few weeks ago at All Saints, Milton Keynes. The grandson of friends of many years was being baptised at the beginning of the Parish Communion. The church was quite full, with maybe 70 adults and around 30 children. The theme of the President's sermon was "Be careful what you wish for", his interpretation of John the Baptist's fiery preaching about the coming Messiah to the Jews who sought him out in the desert. The sermon was well prepared, lively and engaging, although a bit too long! The preacher was guiding us to see how we could apply John's First Century message to our 21st Century lives.

I found myself pondering "Be careful what you wish for" on my way home after the service. The congregation I had been part of that day is the congregation we might wish for at St Chad's, including young adults and many families with children. However, the style of worship they seemed to enjoy was one that many, including me, would not find appealing. It was for me the wrong kind of informal, for example, no sung setting, not standing to hear the Gospel, and the President wearing a suit rather than vestments. It is an awkward fact that this style of worship is found in nearby churches which appear to be thriving, like Emmanuel Didsbury, St Margaret's Burnage, and Holy Trinity Platt. So very, very different from ours.

The Parish Eucharist at St Chad's has changed over the years. We now have lay administration of the chalice, the inclusion of an Old Testament reading, the use of contemporary language, sharing of the Peace, re-introduction of incense, and dismissal from the back of the Nave. Gospel Acclamations and other seasonal material are also innovations in my time at St Chad's. If we are to feel able to welcome change when it comes then maybe we all should think about and share our experiences of attending the Parish Communion in other churches – the good things and the not so good alike.

**Leslie Fletcher
PCC Secretary**

Contributions for the February issue of Magazine

If anyone has any articles to be inserted into February's issue of the magazine please could you let Christine Hindley have your copy by Friday 15th January. Articles submitted after this time will unfortunately not be able to be included in the magazine for February. If it needs typing Christine will need copy by the 12th December. Please do not send articles in PDF Format if possible unless there are logos included in your article.

From the Registers November 2015

Holy Baptism.

We welcome into God's family:

There were no Baptism's in November

Holy Matrimony

We asked God's blessing on the marriage of:

There were no Wedding's in November

Christian Committal

We commend to God's safe keeping the soul of:

Miss Doreen Doody 24th November

Weekly collections (Includes plates and envelopes)

01/11/2015	£287.50
08/11/2015	£340.60
15/11/2015	£281.60
22/11/2015	£201.63
29/11/2015	£486.00

Choral Evensong with the MAIA Singers 7th February 2016

On 7th February, at 6.30 pm, instead of our usual Evensong, we will be having a full Choral Evensong with the MAIA Singers of Stockport. They will be repeating a performance they gave in St Martins-in-the Fields in late October. This will be a full Choral Evensong with anthems by Willcocks and Rutter. The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis will be sung to music by Thomas Walmisley (these have been played recently as Recessional Voluntaries.) The Lord's Prayer will be sung to a version by Robert Stone and the full Ferial Responses will be sung along with a couple of well-known hymns.

The MAIA Singers are a 50-strong choir based in Stockport. I am a member. They give a number of concerts in the Stockport, North Cheshire and South Manchester areas each year.

They are appearing with us for no charge and I would like to see a large congregation, at least as big as the choir. So put the date in your diaries please and come along on the night. Bring your neighbours and friends, even the cat and the dog and anyone passing on the street. Mention it to contacts at other churches. The nights will be lighter by then, so no feeble excuses please !

Robert

KING SOLOMON'S CARPET

Barbara Vine

For our latest read, we chose a thriller by Ruth Rendell, writing as Barbara Vine. 'King Solomon's Carpet' won the Gold Dagger Award in 1991, presented by the Crime Fiction Writers Association and we were so looking forward to an entertaining and exciting time with our new book. Unfortunately, this was not to be. We were surprised and also disappointed, to find that our expectations far exceeded the reality. Ruth Rendell has written some very intriguing and tantalising stories, but this was not one of them. When writing as Barbara Vine, her books are slanted less towards murder, and more towards psychological puzzles, but even under this banner, the narrative failed to impress.

'King Solomon's Carpet' refers to the London Underground System. A section of the network, the line passes by the side of an old, mouldering school house, owned by Jarvis Cocker. He is a man, completely obsessed with underground trains and also by visiting their stations and environs, here and abroad. To raise money for these excursions, he rents rooms to a series of society misfits and drop-outs. Alice left her husband and baby to return to music making; Tom, a flautist, just manages to keep himself alive, by busking for a living; Jed left his family home in order to care for and train Abelard, his beloved hunting hawk; Jasper gains his thrills and also his rite of passage into his peer group, by riding the Underground balanced precariously on the roofs of the trains. Into this mixture sidles the strange and manipulative Axel Jonas. He can frequently be observed, in the company of a man dressed as a bear. They ride around London on the Underground, collecting information for his proposed cataclysmic bombing campaign. In the course of bringing the book to its climax the enigmatic Axel coerces his house mates, to provide him with some vital details about areas of the underground normally off limits to the public.

Although Ms Vine introduces these characters quite carefully, detailing their backgrounds and earlier lives, it is difficult to feel a connexion with them. They flit across the pages then disappear without leaving any lasting impression. The book has a very strange structure. Separating the story narrative, are other, factual chapters about the history and workings of the London Underground. Whilst this information is enlightening, constant interruptions to the story distort its natural flow and lengthen a rather slow-moving thriller. The plan to use the London Underground as the backdrop to the story was intriguing because it could provide so many possibilities for an exciting tale. Sadly, the characters and their exploits fade into insignificance, when compared with the drama of the actual railway.

We gave this book 4.5 /10.

**Our next book will be 'The Mayor of Casterbridge'
by Thomas Hardy.**

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King Solomon's Carpet

There are many legends about the origin of King Solomon's Carpet and one well known version comes from Jewish writings.

When God appointed Solomon as King over everything, he gave him a large carpet, 60 miles wide and 60 miles long. It was made from green silk interwoven with gold. When Solomon sat upon the carpet he was caught up by the wind so that he sailed through the air so quickly that he breakfasted in Damascus and supped in Media. One day, Solomon was filled with pride at his own greatness and wisdom. As a punishment, the wind shook the carpet, throwing down 40,000 men. Solomon chided the wind for the mischief that it had done, but the wind replied that the king would do well to turn towards God and cease to be proud. Whereupon Solomon regretted his behavior and felt ashamed.

This Month's Saint. [8] January 30th Charles I, King and Martyr 1649.

Charles I [1600-1649] is remembered not as a Saint, but as a martyr. At the end of his long struggle with Parliament he could have saved his life and his throne if he had been prepared to sacrifice the Church of England to his opponents. Instead he chose to defend it and was illegally executed as a result. In many things, Charles could not be trusted to keep the promises wrung from him by circumstances and threat, but in his love of the Church he was totally faithful, and for this Anglicans have always honoured him. Those on holiday in Falmouth will find a parish church dedicated to his memory. There are a number elsewhere throughout the country.

In most of the things he defended we would now see Charles I as hopelessly wrong. Much as many of us prefer a monarch to a president, no Anglican today would defend the Divine Right of Kings, which, in the days before democracy as we now know it, was preached from perhaps the majority of Anglican pulpits – though not, of course, from Manchester's Collegiate Church which, in theology and ministry, was Calvinist and Presbyterian and very anti-the king. Yet, in the depth of his personal faith and in his commitment to his responsibilities as monarch, Charles was as firm in his religious convictions as he was in the integrity of his personal morals. For that and for his love of the Church, his commemoration was added as a day of national fasting to the old Book of Common Prayer until it was removed in 1859. It was put back in 1980 with the ASB and there it remains as a reminder of the need for wisdom and integrity in national life.

Albert Radcliffe.

Diary for January 2016

1 st Friday New Year's Day	11.00am	Service for New Year's Day
3 rd Sunday	10.00am	Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong
5 th Tuesday Chad's	7.30pm	Taize at St. Nick's Burnage 7.30pm Holy Communion at St. 8.00pm PCC Meeting
10 th Sunday	10.00am	Parish Communion Tuesday Group outing to the Wycliffe Hotel
12 th Tuesday	8.00pm	Tuesday Group meeting
13 th Wednesday	7.30pm	A service of evening prayer inspired by The Iona Community, followed by hot chocolate and biscuits
17 th Sunday	10.00am	Parish Communion
19 th Tuesday	8.00pm	Book Group
21 st Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion
24 th Sunday	10.00am	Parish Communion
26 th Tuesday	7.30pm	Evening Prayer 8.00pm Needlecraft Group
31 st Sunday	10.00am	Parish Communion

Memorials & Notices from some Parish Churches.

Church Notice

The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hospitality.



St Mary`s Church, Shrewsbury

Robert Cadman (1711 - 1739)

Let this small Monument record the name
of Cadman, and to future time proclaim
How by `n attempt to fly from this high spire
across the Sabine stream he did acquire
His fatal end. `Twas not for want of skill
Or courage to perform the task he fell,
No no, a faulty cord being drawn too tight
Harried his Soul on high to take her flight
Which bid the Body here beneath Good Night
Feb.ry 2nd 1739 aged 29



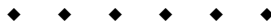
Church Notice

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I Will not Pass This Way Again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.



East Dalhousie Cemetery, Nova Scotia, Canada

Here lies
Ezekial Aikle
Age 102
The Good Die Young



Mount Vaea, Samoa

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON
Under the wide and starry sky
dig the grave and let me lie:
Glad did I live and gladly die,
And I laid me down with a will!
This be the verse you grave for me:
`Here he lies where he longed to be;
Home is the sailor, home from the sea,
and the hunter home from the hill.`

LEARNING TO PRAY. II.

We all communicate in lots of different ways and like any language communicating in prayer takes time to learn. We need then to be patient with ourselves as we learn. And much as we like to multitask and do lots of things at once, it's best when we pray to concentrate on just doing that!

First, we need to prepare in some way. Older writers used to call this remote preparation, when we looked forward to having some time ideally alone and with peace and quiet to focus our minds on God and our relationship with Him. That's important, because all prayer is about our relationship with God and it's out of our prayers that that relationship grows,

Having something we value to look forward to is something we learn as children and even as adults it helps if we can put prayer in that category.

Eventually then, after a long hard day, the times comes when we can be alone with God, What do we do next? A good place to begin is simply to enjoy the moment as the world stops spinning! The next thing is to dedicate the moment to God. Dedication changes everything. If we dedicate our work to God, that changes the way we experience our work. And when we are ill, if we dedicate our condition to God that changes its meaning and because its meaning has changed the way we experience it changes to.

Having dedicated the moment, unless we are in a hurry with urgent business, it's a good idea to practice the presence as some medieval saints would have said. To remember that God was with us long before before we started to try to pray. As the father ran to meet the prodigal son long before his son had reached the door, so God is with us long before we remember to remember that!

Then what? What to do with the moments that follow will depends on us and on our agenda. Usually we have some urgent request – and of that more next time!

Albert Radcliffe



SMALL SAVINGS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

I have just sent another 70 ink cartridges to the recycling unit for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

To see them, lying empty on the kitchen table, some quite scruffy and with leaked ink marks, it is hard to believe that they could be of any possible use to anyone. Yet these small items will provide another £70 towards Guide Dog Training.

Northenden Players Theatre also saves cartridges for the collection and if anyone has connections with similar groups choirs/dance groups/ an evening class, please ask them for their support.

A trained Guide Dog is a lifeline for a blind person. It can help to restore confidence and give some social mobility to those who spend their entire life in darkness. Training is long and very expensive so please remember that every cartridge saved is another £1 to Guide Dogs.

Thank You
Barbara Leary



Guide Dogs

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Treasurer	Mrs Muriel Hargreaves	0161 224 8802
Organist	Robert Nicholls	0161 225 0414
Sacristan	Mrs Barbara Purvis	0161 286 1062
Magazine Editor	Christine Hindley	0161 224 8067
Tuesday Group	Mrs Jenny Black	0161 286 3698
Flower Arranging in Church	Mrs Barbara Purvis	0161 286 1062
Child Protection Officer	Judith Fletcher/Leslie Bell	0161 248 7689

REGULAR SERVICES

IN CHURCH

Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
Tuesday	07.30pm	Holy Communion or Evening Prayer
Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion

Also on the first Sunday of each month:

06.30pm	Evensong
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IN THE HALL

1st Tuesday	08.00pm	PCC
2nd Tuesday	08.00pm	Ladies Group
3rd Tuesday	08.00pm	Book Group
4th Tuesday	08.00pm	Needlecraft Group

Baptisms, Banns, Weddings or Funerals by arrangement.