

THE MAGAZINE OF ST CHAD'S PARISH CHURCH LADYBARN



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MARCH 2016

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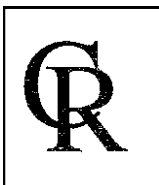
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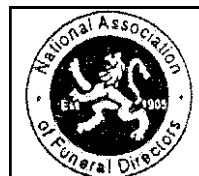
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March 2016

To all who are part of St Chad's congregation and wider family,

Jenny and I thought that a useful focus for the March Parish Magazine editorial would be an update on the process of finding a new priest for our current vacancy at St Chads.

As you know the PCC and Wardens have been writing a Parish Profile. This is a document that sets out facts and figures about our Parish, our pattern and style of worship, and also what we hope for from our next parish priest. We asked the congregation for comments at a meeting in December, and the PCC met in early February and agreed the final version, and it was then sent off to Archdeacon Mark and Bishop David. Two Parish Representatives were also chosen to conduct interviews and these will be Jenny Black and Leslie Fletcher.

The Archdeacon has responded to our Profile by adding a Role Description, which states that a step forward is to be taken towards our joint working with St Nicholas, Burnage. The step forward is that the Priest and Curate working there will also be licensed to St Chad's, and the Priest who comes to St Chad's will also be licensed to St Nicholas. Also, just to remind you all that we have only been offered a half-time priest to serve our Parish, and the other half of the job will be a missionary post involving work for the Deanery and the Diocese. So the appointment process is a rather complicated one, involving quite a number of people. We are now waiting to hear about the interviews for possible candidates, and that is likely to happen within the next two months. Our links with Holy Innocents are still being maintained and we are holding our regular joint discussion groups with them throughout Lent.

We thought we would take this opportunity to thank all the visiting clergy who have preached and presided for us since Elizabeth's departure. We also want to say thank you to Canon Radcliffe, Dr Helen Reid and the Revd Colin Powell, who have stepped up on a number of occasions to fill any gaps that have arisen. This has been much appreciated. We also know that John Milner has been frustrated that he has not been able to participate in our worship during the last few months. However, he is now making a good recovery from surgery and is hoping to be able to contribute more as we move through Lent and into the Easter season. We send him our very best wishes during his time of convalescence.

We hope you all have a thoughtful and reflective journey through Lent and, as Easter is 'early' this year (never on time !), we would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a joyful Eastertide.

Judy and Jenny

The Rector:
Vacancy

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

Churchwarden:
Jenny Black
4 Holcombe Road
Fallowfield
Manchester
M14 6QX
Tel: 286 3698

Lay Reader:
John Milner
Tel: 07957 139002

Lay Reader:
Helen Reid
Tel: 0161 434 4902

Science and Religion on a tee shirt!

By Leslie Fletcher

You can buy on the internet and sometimes see being worn around Manchester University a tee shirt with this on the front:

God said,

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

And there was light.

Probably most readers will recognise the words here, from Genesis 1.3

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

but what is the rest of it? They are Maxwell's Equations, first formulated by the Scottish scientist James Clerk Maxwell in 1862. His insight showed for the first time how closely related are electricity, magnetism, and light, what we now call electromagnetic radiation. Today, these equations are used to design electrical and electronic equipment from mobile phones to satellites, televisions to computers and power stations to washing machines.

Maxwell a great physicist – excelled only by Newton and Einstein – and also a deeply religious man with great insights in both science and religion. Last month Bishop Tom Butler, himself an electronic engineer, spoke of his admiration for Maxwell on Radio 4's *Thought for the Day*. Quoting Maxwell, Bishop Butler said that the objective of all scientific research is "To put your mind into exact accordance with things as they really are". He went on to say that to live in accordance with things as they ultimately are is the objective of the life of religious faith. Listen to all of Bishop Butler's Thought for the Day on I-Player at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03j73vb>

So what is the tee shirt saying? Maxwell's Equations are beautifully elegant and illuminate an astonishing variety of physical phenomena. By wearing this tee shirt a religious person could be saying that such deep scientific understanding enables human beings to "see into the Mind of God". On the other hand, a non-religious wearer might be seeking to question the Genesis creation stories – saying, in effect, that we have Maxwell's Equations so we don't need God to explain light.

What should we think? Perhaps we should start by seeing that the Bible's creation stories differ greatly from those of Israel's neighbours. There is only one God in Genesis, not a whole host of gods as in Egypt. The God of Genesis is the Creator of everything; in Greek mythology the superior gods subcontract creation to more workaday gods. There is no chaos-monster in Genesis that must be defeated, unlike in the *Enuma Elish*, the creation myth of the Babylonians. In Genesis, having created humankind, "God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good", unlike in the *Enuma Elish* where the gods squabble about the rights and wrongs of having created the human race.

In short, the creation stories in Genesis are about the Israelites' understanding of God, not about science. We can delight in the discoveries of science and, at the same, rest in the assurance that the creation stories in Genesis are just the beginning of the Bible's good news about the God we worship, which continues right up to the Book of Revelation.

LEARNING TO PRAY IV.

Most Christians feel guilty about prayer. Some blame themselves for not praying more often, others are troubled that their prayers don't seem as real as rest of their lives. All of us however wish that we were better at praying and that our prayer life left us feeling more mature and fulfilled.

With these things in mind we have begun looking at the Lord's Prayer and have reached the words Hallowed be thy Name, (and not as in the schoolboy howler, Harold be thy name!)

'Hallow' is an old English word meaning consecrate, sanctify or make holy. In everyday life it's to give someone or something their true spiritual value; not to treat them as if they were less than they are. It's the opposite of the sin condemned in the third commandment, thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Today, when we are rediscovering the ancient spiritual and pastoral importance of attitude, so that when we change our attitude towards someone or something we also change what they mean for us and how they are experienced, then we can better understand the importance of our hallowing the name of God.

In some ways, nothing is more important in prayer than that. Get that right and so much else comes out right as well: other people begin to get the respect they deserve and we begin to see things in their true light.

The opposite of hallowing the name is to treat with contempt. We have only to think how we feel when someone fails to treat us with respect then we begin to realise how in this first petition of the Lord's Prayer Jesus put his finger on something of the greatest importance in all our lives. Children whose name is made one of contempt grow up to have blighted lives. Not to hallow is not to love, while to love is to treat as sacred and holy.

It follows from this that the struggle for human rights is very much bound up with the Lord's Prayer. The prayer is not only personal, it's also political! This may surprise some people but 'think on' as we say in Manchester, if we give God his true worth by hallowing his name, how can we then deliberately refuse to do the same for any of his children? In the Kingdom of God, that is in a world that was really fit for humans, everyone's name would be hallowed, but as we have to begin somewhere, why not begin with God.

Another result of not hallowing God's name is idolatry which the sin of hallowing the things we substitute for him. We have only to watch the news on TV to appreciate that among the culprits here are power, money, fame and pleasure. All four are in themselves good and we couldn't live without them, but when they are hallowed as only God should be hallowed, the result is war, oppression and all manner of human misery.

The Lord's Prayer only takes us deeply into life when we ponder it word by word and phrase by phrase. It's best therefore prayed slowly and thoughtfully.

Albert Radcliffe.

From the Registers January 2016

Holy Baptism.

We welcome into God's family:

There were no Baptism's in January

Holy Matrimony

We asked God's blessing on the marriage of:

There were no Wedding's in January

Christian Committal

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

There were no Funeral's in January

Weekly collections (Includes plates and envelopes)

3/01/2016	£399.00
10/01/2016	£193.50
17/01/2016	£188.36
24/01/2016	£309.70
31/01/2016	£259.44

Memorials & Notices from some Parish Churches

Church Notice Board

Honk if you love Jesus.

Text while driving if you want to meet him

All Saints Church, Darfield, Yorkshire



Robert Millthorpe

Died December 13th. 1826

Aged 19.

He lost his life by
inadvertently throwing this stone upon himself

FROM THE BOOK CLUB

The Mayor of Casterbridge:

Thomas Hardy

Rural England in 19C where life revolves around the farming year, and affluence or poverty is still dependent on the vagaries of the weather and a successful harvest.

At a country fair, a young hay-trusser Michael Henchard, quarrels with his wife Susan, and in a drunken fit decides to auction her and his baby daughter to a sailor for five guineas. The next day, aware of his terrible loss, he swears never to touch liquor for as many years as he has lived.

Eighteen years pass, and Henchard has become the Mayor of Casterbridge, a man well respected, but not liked by the local townspeople. The unexpected return of his wife and daughter Elizabeth precipitates an ominous series of events which force him to recognise the horrendous consequences of his selfish impulses and his violent temper.

The narrative moves forward briskly and as the story unfolds its secrets the character of Michael Henchard becomes more and more complex. In spite of his flawed temperament, he does attract sympathy from the reader. Here is an itinerant farm worker on poor wages not well educated and with a wife and daughter to support. His anger and frustration propel him into an alcoholic rage, and he loses his family. The remainder of the story concerns his struggle for success and the nightmare which later unfolds as the effects of his earlier devastating behaviour finally return to haunt him.

Although this book was written more than 100 years ago, it has not lost its potential to draw readers into the fascinating world of rural agriculture. It is also of interest to understand their general attitude to women. Then, to wonder at the time it has taken, for women to be integrated into society. and to have opportunities to make their own way in the world

We all enjoyed this book. It scored 8.5/10

Future Reading for the Book Club

March	Daughter of the Desert by Georgina Howell
April	The Buried Giant by Kazuo Ishiguro
May	The Choir by Joanna Trollope
June	The Time Travellers Wife by Audrey Nisseneger
July	Bartchester Towers by Anthony Trollope

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT
February 29th-March 13th

**We have been invited to join our friends at Holy Innocents
and St Nicholas for their Fair Trade events.**

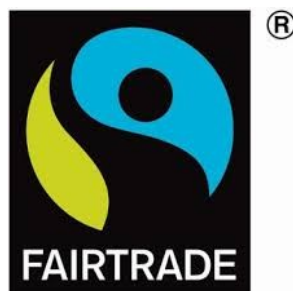
These will be as follows :

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28th
ALL-DAY FAIR TRADE BREAKFAST at Holy Innocents
Traidcraft stall provided by St Chad's

SATURDAY 12TH and SUNDAY 13TH MARCH
ART EXHIBITION, REFRESHMENTS AND FAIR TRADE
STALLS at St Nicholas (more details later)
Traidcraft goods provided by St Nicholas and St Chad's

**Here at St Chad's we are planning to serve Fair Trade
refreshments after our March 6th Mothering Sunday service**

AND FINALLY
FAIR TRADE REAL EASTER EGGS CAN BE ORDERED
FROM JUDY AND LESLIE UP UNTIL
Mothering Sunday



Diary for March 2016

1st	Tuesday	7.30pm	Holy Communion 7.30pm Taize at St. Nick's Burnage 8.00pm PCC Meeting
2 nd	Wednesday	7.30pm	Lent course for St. Chad's and Holy Innocents
4 th	Friday	2.00pm	Women's World Day of Prayer Service
6th	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong
8 th	Tuesday	8.00pm	Tuesday Group meeting
9 th	Wednesday	7.30pm	Lent course for St. Chad's and Holy Innocents
12 th	Saturday	10.30am	Art exhibition at St. Nick's
13 th	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharis 10.30am Art exhibition at St. Nick's
15 th	Tuesday	8.00pm	Book Group
16 th	Wednesday	7.30pm	Lent course for St. Chad's and Holy Innocents
17 th	Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion

THIS IS HOLY WEEK

20th	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist for Palm Sunday
21 st	Monday	7.30pm	Evening service for Holy Week
22 nd	Tuesday	7.30pm	Evening service for Holy Week Needlecraft Group
23 rd	Wednesday	7.30pm	Evening service for Holy Week
24 th	Thursday	8.00pm	Eucharist and Watch for Maundy Thursday
25 th	Friday	11.00am	Service for Good Friday 12.00 noon Service for Good Friday on Mauldeth Road
27 th	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist for Easter Day

Saint of the Month.
March 29th
John Keble [1793=1886]
Priest, Poet and Hymn Writer.

John Keble was born in Fairford, Gloucestershire, where his father was Vicar. After studying at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, he was elected at only 19 to a Fellowship at Oriel. In 1816, he was ordained priest and the following year became a tutor. He resigned the post in 1823 to become his father's curate, during which time he wrote *The Christian Year*, the devotional poems which he published anonymously in 1827'. They were an instant success and by his death had run to 158 editions.

Not surprisingly, in 1831, when he was known to be the author he was appointed to the Chair of Poetry at Oxford.

Two years later, on 14th July he preached his famous Assize Sermon on 'National Apostasy,' alerting the congregation to what he reckoned were the dangers posed to the Christian faith by liberal theology and attitudes to the Bible. It was one of those sermons that changed history as its direct consequence was the rise of the Oxford Movement and Anglo-Catholicism. However, in 1845 Keble chose not follow his friend John Henry Newman in becoming a Roman Catholic. Instead, with others like Edward Pusey he remained a loyal Anglican and was instrumental in keeping the High Church movement within the C of E.

Keble's hymns sung to this day include, *New Every Morning is the love; Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God, Hail gladdening light, of His pure glory poured, and many others.*

Keble was in a long line of Anglicans who turned their prayers of meditation into poetry and hymns, John Donne and George Herbert being two of the better known. It's a practice that continues to this day.

But times change and fashions in poetry with them, especially religious poetry. Keble's verse reflected the Victorian preference for religious certainty and for beliefs that comforted the trouble soul and so have not lasted well in an age that prefers poetry with an 'edge' and which embodies the doubts and challenges of its time.

But Keble was a prayerful and pastorally minded priest whose poetry spoke to the needs of his time and the church can never have too many poet priests like that.

Albert Radcliffe.

Contributions for the April issue of Magazine

If anyone has any articles to be inserted into the April issue of the magazine please could you let Christine Hindley have your copy by Tuesday 15th March. Articles submitted after this time will unfortunately not be able to be included in the magazine for March. Please do not send articles in PDF Format if possible unless there are logos included in your article.

Could I once again appeal to anyone out there who has an hour or so to spare on a Friday morning or a Wednesday afternoon to spend it with us helping with gardening, general maintenance and a bit of church cleaning. On a Wednesday we look after our community garden and orchard, and Friday is spent doing whatever else needs our attention. We really do need more help as we get older and not always as energetic as we would like to be. If we want to keep our church looking nice for a future incumbent, we have to work at it.

Pam Race

'We have recently gained another organist. He is Kenson Li, a first year music student from the University, who is studying organ as his main instrument. Kenson already helps out at St Chrysostom's Church in Victoria Park, and he will be playing for us 4 times between mid April and mid June, when he returns home to Hong Kong for the summer vacation. We will then see him again from late September onwards. A few of you have already met Kenson; please make him welcome when he first appears on the organ bench.

Robert

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PARISH CONTACTS

P.C.C. Secretary	Leslie Fletcher	0161 248 7689
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.