

St Margaret's Parish Church, Burnage

In Touch



Easter 2014



Easter message from the Rector.

Jesus-New life, new hope !

After something of a miserably wet, cold winter, it cheers us up no end to see the first signs of Spring and to feel the sun on our faces, and its warmth nudging the natural world back into life and colour.

As I write these words the daffodils are in full bloom and the promise of new life is everywhere.

As Christians we celebrate Easter because we believe it provides the great hope of a fresh beginning for the human race. The great central story of Jesus' death and return to life points us to God's great love for each one of us. One of the most memorable verses in the Bible reminds of this: "God loved the world so much," the apostle John tells us, "that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (Gospel of John, chapter 3, verse 16.)

This is the wonderful good news we'd love to tell you about should you decide to join us at St Margaret's this Easter.

On **Good Friday** we are planning another Messy Church occasion. There will be the usual opportunity in church for a thoughtful, reflective time focusing on the cross. At the same time, in the Parish Centre, there will be a special 'Messy Church' activity centre around the Good Friday theme (see back cover). We will then all come together in church for the last 15 minutes for a final time of worship followed refreshments and, at 12 noon, by a "Christians Together in Burnage" Walk of Witness, from Christ Church, along Burnage Lane, to St Bernard's Church.

Easter Sunday services will be at 9am and 10.30am. The former is quiet, reflective and very traditional. The latter is more of an Easter Celebration for all ages. Communion will be offered at both occasions.

Please join us if you can at any of these Easter services. You'd be most welcome.

Building bridges between church and community

Ouch. that hurts !!



All that planning and preparation and, before you know it, Christmas has been and gone, and all you've got to look forward to now is the credit card bill hitting the mat.

I'm guessing, if your Christmas was anything like the majority of the population, the sight of the total bill on your statement is hurting and you'll feel like it's going to take you until next Christmas to save up enough to pay it off.

Well, perhaps the New Year is a good time to think through your financial situation; perhaps the time is right to seek out some help in how best to manage the money you receive or to work out a budget more thoroughly so that times like Christmas, which does come round every year you know, don't catch you out. Here at St.Margaret's we have trained workers who can deliver a simple, free, Money Management course, using material supplied by **Christians Against Poverty (CAP)** and if you feel this is something you'd like to explore then do, please, let us know and we will be happy to help. Otherwise, when it comes to handling your cash, you might like to consider these simple, small, changes:

- Plan early, be realistic, and budget accordingly
- When planning a larger outlay of cash remember the everyday bills which still have to be paid
- Keep things simple, don't increase your credit card bill unnecessarily if you can afford to pay with cash
- When shopping, be organised, make a list and stick to it as this will avoid impulse buying
- Shop with friends so you can buy larger quantities and get the benefit of discounts and BOGOF offers - they'll stop you over spending too
- Use your leisure time creatively - bake and make rather than buying everything - it's rewarding in itself
- Don't rush into a purchase, shop around to find the best deals
- Plan ahead, buy next year's Christmas presents in this year's sales or throughout the year so it's not all done next December - just don't forget where you hide them !!

A few simple adjustments to how we handle our money, whether we have a lot or a little, can make all the difference and, above all, it means we are controlling our cash rather than our cash controlling us

A Lay Reader Writes

The first question I am asked is "What are Lay Readers?" Well, Lay Readers in the Church of England are people licensed by the Bishop (in our case the Bishop of Manchester), and we are attached to a specific parish. We are all volunteers, and carry out many and various tasks according to the needs of the people in the parish, and working closely with the vicar.

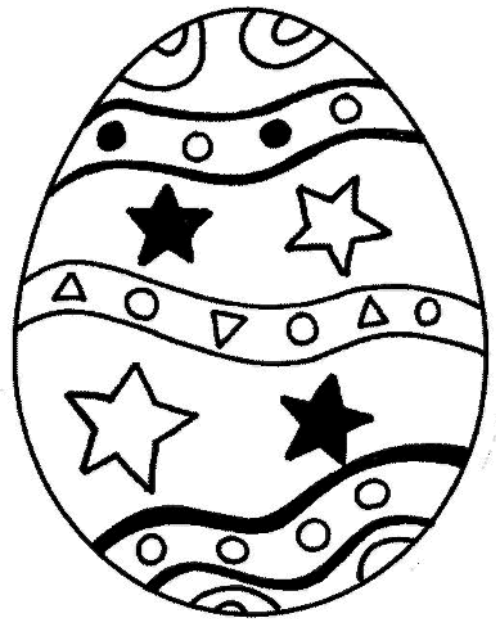
In St. Margaret's there are 3 licensed Lay Readers, and a Lay Reader in training. We have all taken a 2-3 year theology training course which equips us to take certain services in the church, and to help with the day to day running of the parish. For instance the recent Memorial Service in Church was devised and led by the Lay Readers, and we also take home communion to the house-bound, as well as doing home visits (pastoral care and community out-reach). It is a privilege to support and help people in this way, and is a very varied and rewarding job, serving both God and the community.

Pam Corps



What's different about Easter?

We all enjoy eating Easter eggs. Spot the difference between these 2 Easter eggs. There are 10 differences to find.



Now you have found the differences between the Easter eggs, watch this video to see what difference Easter can make to our lives. This animation tells the story of Easter.

<http://ministry-to-children.com/easter-gods-story-video-clip-for-kids/>

Have you ever thought about praying ?

Perhaps you have, at a time of crisis maybe or when you've wanted something so badly that you've tried everything else so why not trying praying too. That way it might all just come true for you. It'll do no harm in asking God as well, will it ? When all else fails, then pray. Is that really how it should be ?

For the Christian, at least, prayer should be as natural as breathing. If we only ever pray in a crisis what do we do the rest of the time ? Hold our breath ? If so, it's no wonder the Church in the so called, prosperous, West is dying on its feet.

Set in the context of dwindling traditional UK church attendance and a fervent wave of popular atheism what exactly is it that draws us to God in prayer in these secular times. Perhaps we all have a basic human need to look to God, our Creator, when all else seems to fail. We live in an age that is receptive to the concept of "prayer", the fundamental need to look to someone, some - thing, that is bigger, higher, stronger, more able than ourselves to help us through a difficult time.

Surely it is an encouragement that, despite the colossal force of media outlets which surround us, nothing will ever delete prayer from this world. It's a sign that says whatever humans create, whether it be buildings made of stone or communicative software tools like Twitter or Facebook, the Holy Spirit can blow in and around the detail. Prayers can line the walls of a home, pub or church. They can take centre stage on an online phenomena and make national news. Remember the call to prayer for Fabrice Muamba ? "God is in Control" declared The Sun Newspaper, "In God's Hands" replied The Daily Star.

Prayer is as important today as it always has been. Prayer can be the last word, the first word, the final destination and the starting line. It has the power to unite cultures separated by oceans and traditions. Prayer does not require academia, experience or even much faith. It doesn't belong anywhere specific and it certainly doesn't need fancy words. Prayer is a breathing mechanism for the human soul, it overrides the human condition and anchors the individual to an immovable deity.

BOYS CLUB



THURSDAYS 6.30-7.30PM

St. Margaret's Parish Centre, Burnage Lane

For Year 2's - Year 6's

**COME ALONG AND ENJOY: FOOTBALL,
POOL, TABLE TENNIS, TRIPS, GAMES,
CHALLENGES, FAITH DISCUSSIONS,
PRIZES AND LOADS OF
FUN WITH YOUR FRIENDS.**

Led by a team of DBS checked adults. 50p entry
but FREE for your 1st time. Drink and biscuit served each week.

For more info. contact Tom Studman - Youth and Children's
Worker at St. Margaret's on 07769 644 191

BOYS CLUB XTRA



THURSDAYS 7.30PM-9PM

St. Margaret's Parish Centre, Burnage Lane

For 11-16 year olds

**FOOTBALL, POOL, TABLE TENNIS, FAITH
DISCUSSIONS AND TRIPS. THE PERFECT
PLACE TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS.**

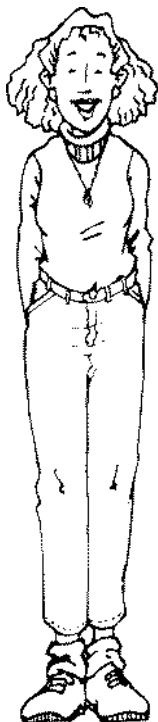
GIVE IT A TRY!

Led by a team of DBS checked adults. 50p entry
but FREE for your 1st time. Drink and biscuit served each week.

For more info. contact Tom Studman - Youth and Children's
Worker at St. Margaret's on 07769 644 191

The Odd Job Shop: help where it's needed

During 2013 a lot of media attention was given to the problem of loneliness is modern society. Large numbers of people, it seems, are not getting the chance to get out and about, meet people and do the things they want to do. This can be for any number of reasons: lack of transport, lack of friends and family close by, illness, being too busy with work...



The Odd Job Shop was set up to combat this situation. Following the success of similar initiatives in Scotland and the West Midlands, we aim to set up needs a spring clean and you haven't got the time or the energy to do it. Your dog needs a couple of

long walks a day, but you're always too tired when you get home from work. You'd like to go to church or out for a meal more often, but it's difficult getting a lift and there's no direct bus route.

Or maybe you just need someone to provide companionship for an hour or two, and perhaps cook a meal for you. Or help you write a letter to the council, or even publish a book on Kindle. The Odd Job Shop can help with all of those things and more. We can provide someone with experience and skills in the areas you need help with – someone reliable and trustworthy from the local community.

We exist to help the whole community, regardless of people's personal background and circumstances. We should stress however that this is not a voluntary or barter service, but one that has to be paid for. We are committed to giving our helpers a fair day's pay for a fair day's work.

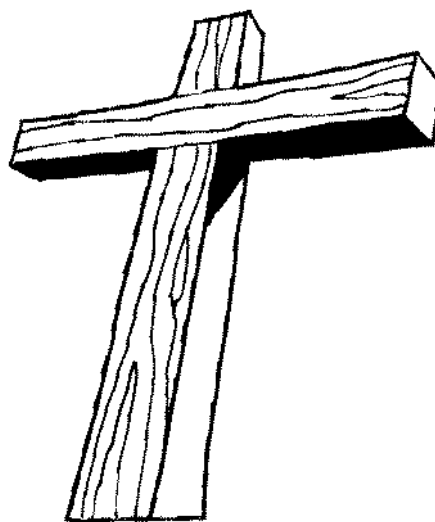
So if you are already eligible for, and receiving help from, say, Age UK or Good Neighbours, and are happy with it, we suggest you continue with it. We don't seek to "poach" customers from charities – rather, we want to expand on their services and bring them to the whole community. As a newly-formed social enterprise, we depend to a large extent on voluntary contributions to cover our running costs and administration.

Donations from people with the means to assist us are always welcome! If you think we can help you, send a message to catsanddogs999@outlook.com giving us a few brief details about the help you need. If you would like to make a donation, the best way is through

crowdfunder.co.uk/the-odd-job-shop

The Tree of Shame

He is me
Upon that tree
He's not to blame
Yet He bears the pain
How He suffered in my place,
Grief and loneliness mars His face,
But yet to come,
The triumphant Son,
Who shares with me,
His victory





Love Burnage is back !

Saturday, 14th June 2014 between 2 & 5pm

Make sure the date is in your diary so you don't miss out on all the fun. It's all absolutely free!

This year of 2014 is a special year – for several different reasons

- 🕒 This summer is the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War
- 🕒 The 12th June sees the start of the Football World Cup Final in Brazil with England involved
- 🕒 From 23rd July, Glasgow will be hosting the Commonwealth Games

The Love Burnage **Big Family Fun Day** on the 14th June will in some way reflect some of these themes. So plan to be there and share with us in this wonderful day.

There will be all the usual attractions like face-painting, coconut shy, bouncy castles for all ages, the ever-popular climbing wall, and so on. Various kinds of food will also be on offer, including an outdoor barbecue and indoor cream teas. New for this year will be a special BMX bike riding display and a visit from the N:Gage youth truck with activities for young people.

We are hoping to involve children from the local primary schools in different ways, and there will be a special 'guest' appearance by the Burnage Community Choir..

Last but not least, **George the puppet** will be joining us again at this year's Love Burnage, along with his 'handler' Dave Glover. They will be visiting the local primary schools during the run-up to the main event to take part in school assemblies and some RE classes, as well as participating in some of St Margaret's own in-house activities. And, of course, George will be making an appearance on site during the course of the Fun day!

Finally, to round off the weekend, George and Dave will be taking part in a special **Love Burnage Celebration Service** in St Margaret's Church at 10.30am on **Sunday, 15th June**, to which everyone is invited. This is for all the family and there will be something for all ages – including crèche facilities for very young children at the back of church. Join us if you can for the Love Burnage event.



Tuesday Group at St Margaret's



Easter Reflections

Tuesday 8th April 2014
St Margaret's Church, Burnage
2.00pm to 3.30pm
Everyone welcome



Parish Register

Baptisms

None

Weddings

None

Funerals

Jan 07	Annie Wardle
Feb 05	Suzanne Clapson
Feb 07	Harold Brassington
Feb 21	Emma Simister
Feb 26	Gwen Sutton
Mar 07	Maud Bradley
Mar 12	Margaret Chambers

At St Margaret's we pray for the people who live and work in the streets of Burnage.

Here's a list of streets for the next few months

April 2014

06/04/14 Paignton Ave, Devon Ave.,
Brighton Ave.

13/04/14 Burnham Drive

20/04/14 Burnage Hall Rd., Calverley
Ave.,

27/04/14 Grangethorpe Drive.

May 2014

04/05/2014 Eastern Circle (East side),
Enfield Ave., Ealing Place.

11/05/2014 Eastern Circle (West side),
Henley Place, Pinner Place.

18/05/2014 Harrow Ave., Amersham
Place.

25/5/2014 Watford Rd., Guernsey Place

June 2014

1/6/2014 Shawbrook Rd.

8/6/2014 Westdale Gdns

15/6/2014 Elmhurst Drive and Woodside
Ave.

22/6/2014 Moorcroft Drive and Moorcroft
Walk

29/6/2014 Burnage Lane (Barcroft Rd
to Green End Roundabout),



St. Margaret's Church
Parish Centre
Burnage Lane

Good Friday Special

Friday
18th April
10.30am-
11.30am



CRAFTS, GAMES, CELEBRATION
followed by **HOT CROSS BUNS**
and our **CTIB WALK OF WITNESS** at 12 noon

Messy Church is FREE and everyone is WELCOME

St Margaret's Helpline

Got a problem?

Like someone to talk to?

In spiritual help or advice?

For pastoral help and support,

telephone our Helpline and someone will get back to you

0161 432 4606