



Contract us at:

St Mary's with St Andrew's Parish Office

St Andrew's Community Church, Hall Street, Stockport, SK1 4DA.



Tel: 0161 429 6564

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Stockport Parish Church [St Mary's in the Marketplace]

Churchgate, Stockport, SK1 1YG



Tel: 0161 480 1815



www.stmarysinthemarketplace.com



st.marysstockport@gmail.com



Stockport Parish Church - St Marys



St Thomas' Church, Stockport, Holt Street, Stockport, SK1 3PY.



Telephone: 0161 480 2845



www.stthomasstockport.org.uk



info@stthomasstockport.org.uk



St Thomas' Church Stockport



St Luke's, Northumberland Road, Brinnington, SK5 8LS



www.stlukesbrinnington.co.uk



St Luke's Brinnington



RECTOR: Rev Lynne Cullens

St Mary's Rectory, 24 Gorsey Mount Street, Stockport, SK1 4DU



Telephone: 0161 477 1938



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Parish of Stockport and Brinnington

St Mary - St Thomas - St Luke





Before taking up the role of Rector here, my previous parish was in Crewe. When I tell people that often their response is 'Crewe? Never been to it, but I've been through it many times'. Crewe and its station are great passing places. In fact many projects and initiatives aimed at transforming the town are titled 'All Change for Crewe', in deference to its railway heritage.

And now, having arrived in the parish of Stockport with Brinnington, we're looking at change here. And whilst many of us look forward to new ways of being church, some may find those changes less easy to accommodate. Change is often said to be both an opportunity and a threat, and both excitement and trepidation as we face the future are entirely natural reactions. It is assuring at such times to recall that God always goes ahead of us 'doing a new thing', as Isaiah 43 vs 19 has it; God beckons us forward and, over the coming months and years, we should pray earnestly for his guidance and blessing as we seek to discern his future will for our parish and our communities.

And through all of the changes to come, we are assured that God in Christ never changes. I hold to the image that T S Eliot gives in his play *Murder in the Cathedral*, about the martyrdom of Thomas Becket, where he compares our Christian lives in all their activity to the wheel of a cart, endlessly turning. But at the centre of the wheel, holding all of that activity in place, there is the hub...still and abiding, in the same way as Christ abides at the centre of our lives, in the midst of all that might be changing around us.

Sunsets and Sunrise by Megan Carter

Sunsets and sunrise, rainbows and moonbeams,
Waterfalls rushing, streams tumbling down,
All of the planet teeming with life,
A celestial ball in the sky spinning around.

The whole of creation sings of God's glory,
The work of His fingers crafted with care,
All intrinsically moving together
A world of wonder without compare.

But this world that we see will pass away,
It is only a shadow of what will be,
When new heavens and earth burst into existence,
No sun, no moon, and no more sea.

Christ Himself will be the Light
That illuminates all this heavenly sphere,
Where He is there is life everlasting
No pain, no sorrow, just joy everywhere.

We cannot imagine what glories await us
Where the radiance of God's glory shines through His Son,
Together we'll walk on the street made of gold,
We just know that the best is yet to come.

When the authorities had tried to stop his translation, Tyndale fled to Hamburg, Wittenberg, Cologne, and finally to the Lutheran city of Worms. It was there, in 1525, his New Testament emerged. It was quickly smuggled into England, and King Henry VIII, Cardinal Wolsey, and others, were furious.

Tyndale moved on to Antwerp, where for nine more years he continued his work. Then in May 1535 he was betrayed, arrested, and jailed in a castle near Brussels. Tied to the stake for strangulation and burning, his dying prayer was that the King of England's eyes would be opened. Sure enough, two years later King Henry authorised the Great Bible for the Church of England, which relied largely on Tyndale's work.

Not only that, but in 1611, the 54 scholars who produced the King James Bible drew very heavily from Tyndale. Even today we honour him: in 2002, Tyndale was placed at number 26 in the BBC's poll of 100 Greatest Britons.



So pray with me and for me as we change, as I will pray with and for you. Please come and discuss any concerns or ideas that you have and do feedback to me as we progress. And, above all, feel that sense of being centred and held by Christ in the midst of our activity, of his abiding with each of us as individuals and with us as a community, and may he bless our parish and our town richly as we serve him here.

Revd Lynne Cullens

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Marriage registration changes on the way.

The Government plans to introduce a new system of registration for marriages, including church weddings, in England and Wales. It is anticipated that the new system will replace traditional marriage registers with a new 'marriage document' to be signed by the couple at the wedding and lodged with the local register office. Although no date has been set for implementing the new system, representatives of the Church of England, together with the Church in Wales and the Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury, have been in discussion with the General Register Office on how it will be introduced. It is expected that the General Register Office will provide training and information for clergy. Details will be announced as soon as possible. The Revd Dr Malcolm Brown, the Church of England's Director of Mission and Public Affairs, said: "We are in close discussions with the General Register Office, who are working hard to ensure that the change in the system of registering marriages is as smooth and seamless as possible. "I want to reassure clergy and couples planning a marriage that we are absolutely committed to making the new system work within the context of a Church of England marriage service and the GRO has promised to provide training and comprehensive user-friendly information for clergy. "We are currently in discussion with the GRO about the exact shape that will take and will update clergy as soon as the details have been finalised. "Although no firm date has yet been set for the introduction of the new system, we are aware of the desire to implement it as soon as possible. "A church wedding is a very special day where unique promises are made before God and in the presence of friends, family and the wider community in a timeless setting, marking the beginning of their married lives together."

If you are planning a wedding in the near future we will ensure you are fully aware of any change in procedures.

William Tyndale, Bible translator and Reformation martyr

This month is the 501th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, and so a good time to pay tribute to an outstanding English scholar, translator and martyr of the Reformation.

William Tyndale (c. 1494 – 6th October 1536) was born near Gloucester, and studied at Oxford and Cambridge. He could speak seven languages, and was proficient in ancient Hebrew and Greek. As a priest, his abilities would have taken him a long way, but by 1523 Tyndale's only desire was to translate the Bible, so that English men and women could read it for themselves. It became his life's passion.

For Tyndale had rediscovered a vital doctrine that the Church had been ignoring: that of justification by faith. He had found it when reading Erasmus's Greek edition of the New Testament. In fact, his life's work was well summed up in some words of his mentor, Erasmus: "Christ desires His mysteries to be published abroad as widely as possible. I would that [the Gospels and the epistles of Paul] were translated into all languages, of all Christian people, and that they might be read and known."

Tyndale's translation was the first Bible to be published in English, the first to draw directly from Hebrew and Greek texts, and the first English translation to take advantage of the printing press.

It was to cost him his life. For Tyndale's work was seen as a direct challenge to the power of both the Roman Catholic Church and the laws of England in maintaining the Church's position.

New Service times:

Following recent congregational consultation meetings it has been agreed that with effect from Sunday, 13th October Lynne will be taking all Sunday morning services (for a period of six months).

This has meant that service times will need to be adjusted as follows:

St Thomas' 09.00am

St Mary's 10.00am

St Luke's 11.00am

Brenda Baxindale

An invitation to a special service at Chester Cathedral during which Brenda (Reader Emeritus at St Luke's) will receive her permission to officiate from Bishop Keith.

4.15pm 12th October 2019 – please speak to Brenda if you wish to attend (tickets may be required).



Nigel Beeton writes:

'Due to a peculiar set of circumstances involving a resurfacing project on my drive, and an unexpected fall of my Mother-in-Law, I found myself with her mobility scooter about a mile and a half from home and no vehicle to carry it in. What choice did I have but to ride it home? Of course, an embarrassingly large number of friends and colleagues spotted me! But it was also something of an experience in seeing the streets of our town from the perspective of a disabled person:

**I love my little scooter
It helps me get about
It has a little hooter
So I don't need to shout;**

**Though neither help the shocking
State of paths, worse ev'ry day!
And neither help unblocking
The cars parked in my way.**

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY & LEPROSY MISSION

For those with collection boxes for "The Children's Society" and "The Leprosy Mission" could these be handed in to Frank Hamnett (St Mary's) as soon as possible please. Arrangements can then be made to get these emptied and monies paid to the charities concerned. Thank you.

St Luke the Evangelist – linking the sacred and the profane

To St Luke, a Gentile, we owe the beautifully written Gospel of Luke, and the Book of Acts. He was a Greek physician, a disciple of St Paul, a companion on some of his missionary journeys, and an inspired writer.

Luke's gospel focuses on the compassion of Christ. His gospel contains some of the most moving parables, such as the Good Samaritan and Prodigal Son. This, with his emphasis on poverty, prayer and purity of heart, make up much of his appeal to the Gentiles, for whom he wrote.

Women figure more prominently in Luke's gospel than any other: look out for the extended story of the Virgin Birth, and stories of Mary, Elizabeth, and the woman who was a sinner.

In Acts, Luke is remarkably good at linking sacred and profane history, as subsequent archaeology has shown. A principal theme of his Acts is how the early Christians moved away from Jerusalem into the pagan world, and especially on to Rome.

Luke is the patron saint of doctors, surgeons and artists (due to his picturesque style of writing). His symbol is an ox, sometimes explained by reference to the sacrifice in the Temple at the beginning of his Gospel. In England 28 ancient churches were dedicated to him.

ST. MATTHEW'S GOSPEL – for everyone

An inspiring day for all Christians on the Gospel of Saint Matthew - the Gospel for the coming year. This is promoted by St. Ambrose Parish in Stockport and hosted by local Catholic parishes.

Saturday 5th October

10.00am coffee/tea for 10.15am start, through to 3.30pm.



Speaker - Fr. Nick King SJ

After reading Classics at Oxford, Nicholas King was ordained as a Jesuit priest. Subsequently he obtained an MPhil in Early Judaism and has taught at universities in the UK and South Africa, and since 2001 back at Oxford University.

at

Aquinas College, Nangreave Road, Stockport, SK2 6TH



FREE ENTRY — Donations welcome on the day

Enquiries & further details: 07504 130749

Remember to bring your bible!

Best way to enjoy the Bible? Be like a dog with a bone!

Rev Tony Horsfall

Sarah brought her beautiful dog Bobby to a Quiet Morning at church. He was very well behaved and loved all the attention he received. As we began our time together Sarah gave him a bone to chew on, and he settled down contentedly, enjoying his own experience of 'heaven'!

The expression came into my mind, 'like a dog with a bone', and watching Bobby at work further confirmed my thinking. Here before us was a wonderful example of what it means to meditate on Scripture – to slowly and patiently chew things over in our mind until we begin to grasp internally what God is saying to us.

The Bible encourages us to meditate in this way. Think of Psalm 1, where we read about the godly person 'whose delight is in the law of the Lord and who meditates on His law, day and night (v2).' Think also of Joshua who was told, 'Keep this book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it (Joshua 1:8). Mary did this as well, when at the birth of Jesus she 'treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart (Luke 2:19).'

Perhaps sometimes we don't spend enough time with Scripture, letting its truth soak into our minds and pondering its meaning and application to our lives. The spiritual discipline of Bible meditation helps us to do just that. Why not take a verse of Scripture that has caught your attention recently, and chew it over as you go through the day, looking at it this way and that way until you feel you have received the goodness it contains?



Dropping a line

Canon David Winter

Like many older readers I can remember being taught how to write a letter. Address, date, recipient, signature, and then we had to address the envelope, buy a stamp (two pence at that time!) and post it.

The first change to that routine came exactly 60 years ago this month, with the introduction in the UK of the postcode – a combination of seven or eight letters or numbers which precisely located our address. It took 14 years to enlist the entire country, but eventually virtually the whole world took on the ingenious postcode. We were now part of a world network of communication.

It was the first big change to our postal system in a century, but we happily took it on board. More recent changes have been more revolutionary: fax, e-mail, texting and their many refinements. Letter-writing or 'snail mail' as it is referred to now, is rapidly dying out. I would guess many under thirties have never written a personal letter or received one. Paper, envelopes, stamps are too complicated.

I think that it is sad, but probably unavoidable. I don't think many people will be preserving their love-texts for posterity. Products of a moment can be forgotten in a moment.

7th Earl of Shaftesbury – the Poor Man's Earl

Think of Piccadilly Circus, and that small statue of the angel poised with bow and arrow. Most people think it stands for Eros. It does not. It stands for Anteros, his brother, the god of selfless love. It is a memorial to the greatest Christian Victorian philanthropist, politician and social reformer of his generation – Lord Shaftesbury. Anthony Ashley Cooper, the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury (1801 – 1885) was a devout Christian who spent his life fighting to help ease the plight of lunatics, chimney sweeps, children in factories, women and children in the mines, opium addicts, and children without any education. His own early life was loveless and bleak – his parents formal and frightening, his early schooldays a 'horror' of 'cruelty and starvation'. The only love came from the family's housekeeper, Maria Millis. A biographer wrote: 'She provided for Ashley a model of Christian love that would form the basis for much of his later social activism and philanthropic work.' The reality and homely practicality of her Christian love were a beacon for the young Ashley. She told him Bible stories, she taught him a prayer. After Christ Church Oxford, where he proved an outstanding scholar, Ashley turned to politics. In 1826, aged 25, he was elected as Tory MP for Woodstock. He was eager to serve on parliamentary committees that got things done; his great life's work had begun. Lunatics: In 1827 lunatics were kept chained naked in straw, forced to sleep in their excrement. They were washed in freezing cold water, with one towel for 160 people and no soap. There was gross over-crowding and inedible food: asylums were places to die in. Shaftesbury's maiden speech in Parliament was in support of a Bill to improve conditions. He wrote: 'By God's blessing, my first effort has been for the advance of human happiness.' It took years: from 1827 to 1884 he fought for a succession of Lunacy Acts, writing later of 'the years of toil and care that, under God, I have bestowed on



Over the last two years, every Tommy sold has been packaged and posted by the veterans at Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI), Britains Bravest Manufacturing Company.



Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI) is a national charity supporting the Armed Forces, people with disabilities and people who are unemployed. They improve lives every day by inspiring those they help and supporting them to find work and lead independent lives. Amongst other things the charity have housed Veterans for almost a century and are now on a mission to provide high quality housing to ex-service personnel for another 100 years.

Coffee Morning: St Mary's

Saturday: 9th November 2019

In aid of the Royal British Legion

10:30 – 12:00



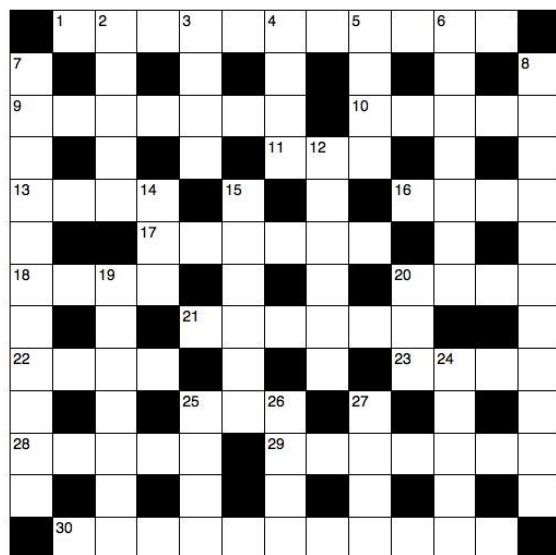
Remembering Horace Nicholls: Did you know that the commemorative Perspex “Tommy” (examples of which remain on display at St Mary’s) was in part inspired by a photograph taken in WWI by Horace Nicholls (1867-1941). In 1917, Horace was appointed as the Home Front Official Photographer and subsequently the Imperial War Museum’s first official photographer. He was present at the interment of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey and the unveiling of the Cenotaph in Whitehall. He was to lose his eldest son in action on the Western Front in 1917. Horace specialised in capturing the human impact of the war including numerous photographs of women’s contributions to the war effort. He was the son of a professional photographer and following an apprenticeship with his father on the Isle of Wight and Huddersfield, he headed for Johannesburg and, during the Boer War, he worked for the London-based periodical South Africa. On his return to England he specialised in social and sporting events for magazines such as Tatler and the Illustrated News. He was one of the first photographers to make a living from documentary photography. Nicholls photographed Dorothy Levitt, the first British woman racing driver. His images were illustrated her book *The Woman and the Car* (1909). He continued to work as a photographer until his retirement in 1936 and died in 1941. Horace Nicholls had five children, including noted character actor Anthony Nicholls (with Florence Holderness). His grandchildren include Grammy Award winning classical music producer James Mallinson, actor David Mallinson and actress Phoebe Nicholls and his great-grandchildren are actors Tom Sturridge and Matilda Sturridge. Nicholls’ early work – some 1268 photographs – is held in The Royal Photographic Society’s Collection at the National Media Museum, Bradford. His First World War photography, comprising some 1,500 photographs, is held by Imperial War Museums, London. Other work is retained by members of his family. **Give Horace a thought next time you walk past our memorial Tommy.**



THERE BUT NOT THERE
COMMEMORATE. EDUCATE. HEAL.

this melancholy and awful question.’ Child Labour and Factory Reform. Again, reform took years. Shaftesbury fighting for the Ten Hours Act from 1833, 1842, 1844, 1846 and 1847 – when it finally got through Parliament. No child under the age of 9 should work in the cotton or woollen industries below the age of 9, and no one under 18 must work more than ten hours a day. Miners. In 1842 he fought to outlaw the employment of women and children in coal mines. Climbing boys. Thousands of young boys were dying in terrible pain – scorched, blinded and suffocated by soot, or with cancer of the scrotum. Ashley fought for Bills in 1840, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1864 until finally the Chimney Sweepers Act 1875 closed the practise down. Education reform: 1844 Ashley became president of the Ragged School Union that promoted education for poor children. He wrote that if it were to fail, ‘I should die of a broken heart’. Religion. Lord Shaftesbury was a devout Christian who became a leading figure in 19th century evangelical Anglicanism. He was President of British and Foreign Bible Society for nearly 30 years. He was very sympathetic to the Jews, and advocated their return to the Holy Land. Lord Shaftesbury’s funeral service at Westminster Abbey on the morning of 8th October 1885 drew thousands of people. The streets along the route were thronged with the poor: costermongers, flower-girls, boot-blacks, crossing sweepers, factory hands and many more. They waited for hours just to see his coffin go by. He was dearly loved by them as the ‘Poor Man’s Earl’. One biographer wrote: No man has in fact ever done more to lessen the extent of human misery, or to add to the sum total of human happiness.’ The great preacher Charles Spurgeon called him ‘the best man of the age’. He ‘lived for the oppressed’, he was a ‘moral anchor in a drifting generation’, ‘friend of every living thing’, ‘he had a ‘fervent love to God, and hearty love to man.’





Crossword

1 The sixth disciple
(Matthew 10:3) (11)

9 'And lead us not into
temptation, but
deliver us from the —
— ' (Matthew 6:13)
(4,3)

10 Love intensely
(Song of Songs 1:4) (5)

11 From Mt Carmel to
Jezreel, Elijah — all the

way (1 Kings 18:46) (3)

13 One of the Midianite leaders who was captured and killed after
Gideon's victory in the valley near Moreh (Judges 7:25) (4)

16 Metallic element (4)

17 At line (anag.) (6)

18 'Cursed is everyone who is — on a tree' (Galatians 3:13) (4)

20 Where Samson killed a thousand Philistines with a donkey's
jawbone (Judges 15:14) (4)

21 He succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)

22 'When he saw him, he took — on him' (Luke 10:33) (4)

23 'For — is the gate and broad is the road that leads to
destruction' (Matthew 7:13) (4)

25 'The god of this — has blinded the minds of unbelievers' (2
Corinthians 4:4) (3)

28 Fear or terror (Psalm 31:22) (5)

29 'We, who are many, are one body, for we all — of the one loaf'
(1 Corinthians 10:17) (7)

30 Assyrian ruler assassinated by his sons while worshipping his god
Nisroch (2 Kings 19:37) (11)

Down

2 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made — ' (1
Corinthians 15:22) (5)

3 'After supper he — the cup' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (4)

4 The request of a man of Macedonia in Paul's vision: 'Come — to
Macedonia and help us' (Acts 16:9) (4)

5 He disobeyed his father Judah by refusing to impregnate his dead
brother's wife (Genesis 38:9) (4)

6 I veto me (anag.) (7)

7 Fourth king of Judah (1 Kings 15:24) (11)

8 Priest of God Most High, who blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18) (11)

12 'I have made you — — for the Gentiles' (Acts 13:47) (1,5)

14 Implore (1 Samuel 15:25) (3)

15 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the — , something
sweet' (Judges 14:14) (6)

19 'I am the most ignorant of men; I do — —
a man's understanding' (Proverbs 30:2) (3,4)