

St Margaret's Parish Church. Burnage

In Touch

September 2014

From the Rector's desk....



Welcome to this latest edition of *In Touch*, the parish newsletter from St Margaret's Church. Another summer is behind us, the holiday in the sun (if you managed one!) a distant memory and the kids are back at school.

We've had a great summer here at church featuring a fabulous Love Burnage Family Fun Day in June with well over one thousand in attendance, and a wonderful Holiday Special for Older People at the end of July with 60 to 70 seniors coming along each day.

What's happening this autumn? Read on to find out.

A Season of Invitation



We're not doing *Back to Church Sunday* this year. Instead we want to invite you along to a number of different 'happenings' during the next two or three months.

Sunday, 5th October at 10.30am

- Come and join in our *Messy Harvest* celebration with something for the whole family



Sunday, 9th November at 10.30am

- A special year this year 100 years on from the start of the First World War – you'd be very welcome to join for this special act of Remembrance

Sunday, 16th November at 3.30pm

- Opportunity at a special service to remember and give thanks for a loved one lost in the recent or more distant past
- Come, light a candle in memory and hear loved one's names read out.



September is often a time of new beginnings. During our main Sunday morning service in church we are going to be working our way through the Old Testament book of Joshua, a time of new beginnings for the people of God as they entered the Promised Land for the first time. God's word to Joshua then, and to us today in our time of new beginnings, is this:

'Be bold and strong! Banish fear and doubt! For remember, the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' (Joshua 1, verse 9)

As we move into this new school year, this time of new beginnings, be reminded that Jesus said pretty much the same thing to his followers when he was getting ready to leave them and return to his Father's side in heaven:

'Be sure of this-that I am with you always, even to the end of the world.' (Matthew 28, verse 20)

For further details of any of the above:

☎ 0161 432 1844/4606 ✉ info@stmargaret.co.uk

Building bridges between church and community



Hello, my name is Jo and I'm a member of St Margaret's Church. Since 2008 I have been visiting Zambia on a regular basis to help with the work of Dignity. Dignity is a Christian charity that seeks to bring hope to rural Africa, both by spreading the good news of Jesus and by working to alleviate poverty.

We help people start and run community Christian discipleship groups called Life! Groups. As they do so people are discovering that being a Christian is much more than going to church on Sunday. They are finding joy in living everyday with Jesus.

We are seeing great things happen as a result of Life! Groups meeting; people becoming Christians, people breaking free from addictions, families being reunited, orphans being cared for and many other local grass roots projects.

One example is that of Auntie Mumba who lives in a village called Kamata. She is 58 years old and lives on her own as she is a widow. In February the

roof of her hut was blown off by strong winds leaving her without shelter. The Life! Group meeting in her village decided that they could do something to help her. They went to cut poles for a new roof and grass for thatching and then returned to her house and constructed a new roof.



People who thought they could do nothing are transforming their communities as they discover freedom and hope in Jesus and start to work together. For people like Auntie Mumba this means experiencing the love of Jesus in a very real and life changing way!

If you would like to hear more about the work of Dignity join us in church for our Africa Evening at 6.30pm on Sunday 21st September 2014. And there's more about Dignity at:

www.dignityonline.org.uk

50:50 CHALLENGE

What will your 50 be?

50 years of Zambian independence | 50 volunteers | £10,000

To mark 50 years of Zambian independence and raise funds to support our work in Zambia, the trustees of Dignity invite you to join them in their 50:50 challenge

Have you got a job for me?

Are you willing to pay £4 to get it done?

As part of Dignity's 50:50 challenge

<http://dignityonline.org.uk>

I have pledged 50 hours to do 50 jobs in order to raise £200 for Dignity before the end of 2014

That's just £4 for a 1-hour job!

Have you got any annoying jobs hanging around that you'd pay £4 to get done?

Get in touch soon to book your job.

Hurry as there are only 50 hours available!

Job Slots available Mon to Fri 10 – 2 and Sat 11 – 5.

Kate Palmer

Kate50.50challenge@gmail.com

0161 431 9554



St. Margaret's Church
Parish Centre
Burnage Lane

Come and join us for

MESSY CHURCH



LOVE BURNAGE

MONDAYS:

September 8th | 3.30–5.30pm

November 10th | 3.30–5.30pm

December 8th | 3.30–5.30pm

January 12th | 3.30–5.30pm

February 9th | 3.30–5.30pm

SPECIAL SUNDAY MESSY CHURCH

Sunday October 5th | 10.30am–12.30pm

Followed by 'Bring and Share' Lunch at 1pm

GAMES, CRAFTS, CELEBRATION AND A LIGHT MEAL

Messy Church is FREE and everyone is WELCOME

What's Your View ?

It often feels like we are bombarded from all sides with news of the troubled youth of today and their various antics but what's your view. Here's a poem that you might like to read, it can be viewed from one of two angles. You could start at the top and read down to the bottom or, alternatively, you could start reading from the bottom line and work your way up to the top. Which version do you prefer ? Perhaps it just goes to show that there's often more than one way of looking at the same thing !!

'Our generation will be known for nothing.

Never will anybody say,

We were the peak of mankind.

That is wrong, the truth is

Our generation was a failure.

Thinking that

We actually succeeded

Is a waste. And we know

Living only for money and power

Is the way to go.

Being loving, respectful, and kind

Is a dumb thing to do.

Forgetting about that time,

Will not be easy, but we will try.

Changing our world for the better

Is something we never did.

Giving up

Was how we handled our problems.

Working hard

Was a joke.

We knew that

People thought we couldn't come back.

That might be true,

Unless we turn things around'

Interesting !! Whatever your view, please pray for the young people in our Community who are constantly under pressure, as we all are, with temptations and pressures from every side, they are part of the future of Burnage" .

War and Peace

Over the last couple of months especially, we have been bombarded about the First World War in all sections of the media, as we remember the centenary of the outbreak of that "War to end Wars". I still do not quite understand why war broke out in 1914, despite reading a lot about it. *It seems to me that it was mainly fought between political powers in Europe, who were involved in the vacuum of power left by the breakup of the Austro- Hungarian Empire. This in turn was further fuelled by involving the people of the various European Empires, and the global effect on the economy of many countries.* Whatever the cause, its effect rippled out to involve ordinary people in all walks of life.

Intrigued about my own family and its part in the war, I have done some family history and found that while one of my uncles was manning the guns of the field artillery, another uncle became a stretcher bearer – working among the injured in "no mans land".

Today we are faced by outbreak of war in the Middle East. *Complicated war on several fronts involving radically different political, religious and sectarian attitudes, and forcing people into strange alliances.* Ordinary families have been, and will be, caught up in the violence – with destruction of communities, homelessness and countless numbers of refugees as an inevitable result.

It seems we humans never learn about the futility of war, and forces many to choose between warrior or stretcher bearer on a daily basis. God help us all.

Prayer

God of peace, whose son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life, Look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by you healing power make whole both people and nations; Through our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.

(Collect for the 3rd. Sunday before Advent – from the Book of Common Prayer).

Pam Corps – Lay Reader, St Margaret's Church.

Burnage Holiday Special for Older People

This annual event was held at the end of July with the theme “Those were the Days” which produced lots of interesting activities throughout the week and was deemed a great success by all who attended. We did lots of reminiscing ---- talks on our past school days, bygone hairstyles, hats through the ages, a trip down memory lane geared to the music and cultural scene in the 50’s and 60’s and a session on “Manchester Oddities” to name but a few. There were plenty of craft activities as well as snooker, table tennis, curling, quizzes, films, computing, digital photography and some live music at the end of the day. There was also time just to sit and relax and of course, to do plenty of chatting! It really did feel like a “holiday at home”. The kitchen team worked hard providing refreshments and tasty lunches each day which were much appreciated. We even managed a day trip to Llandudno and were able to enjoy a good lunch, wonderful sunshine and beautiful scenery. We rounded the week off with a street party and a “sing along with Alfie”! The whole event was free, helped by grants from the City Council, Southway Housing and Age Friendly Manchester.



All in all an amazing week which lived up to its aim of fun, food and friendship. Don't forget to look out for it again next year!

HOPE-ful or HOPE-less ? You Decide

Whenever I go away on my summer holidays I try and take a book with me that is somehow connected with where I'm going. This year we went to Crete, the largest Greek island, so I took a book () about the leper colony that was created on Spinalonga, just off the eastern coast of Crete, between 1903 and 1957. Not exactly your standard Mills & Boon holiday romance, I grant you, but more my style.*

*The book itself is a work of fiction but it was inspired by the real life achievements of one particular patient of Spinalonga and the priest who ministered to the lost souls who were in exile there. It is a gruesome and, oftent, graphic, account of a hard life characterised by despair and despondancy and where a God of grace and compassion must have seemed a million miles away. However, a golden thread of **HOPE** runs throughout the book which culminates in the line "...the bitter things life fed me make the sweet things even sweeter. I feel blessed to be alive"*

*Interestingly, the local, free, newspaper for the area where we were staying also carried a small piece about **HOPE** ('elpida' in Greek) in which it said "**HOPE** is to live each and every moment at the fullest" and included some quotations from famous historical figures:*

"To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all" - Oscar Wilde

"You've got to dance like there's nobody watching, love like you'll never be hurt, sing like there's nobody listening and live like it's heaven on earth" - William W. Purkey

*"That is all a person needed: **HOPE**. It was lack of **HOPE** that discouraged a person" - Charles Bukowski, *Factotum**

***HOPE** changes everything*

*The Bible says, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with **HOPE**" (Jeremiah 29 v 11). Here at St.Margarets we'd like to introduce you to the **GOD OF HOPE**. So if you're facing financial/debt worries talk to us about Christians Against Poverty; if you're hungry talk to us about The Burnage Foodbank; if you're seeking meaning to your life talk to us about Alpha; if you're an older person feeling lonely talk to us about Tuesday Group or if you're struggling in your care of children talk to us about ABC. There is more information on all of these services,*

Double Entendre ! These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water. 'The sermon tonight:'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow..

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

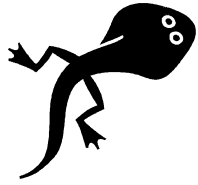
Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The editor will be pleased to know of any such howlers found in In Touch.....



CHANGES

Look for some words about changes. The clues will help you.



J I U L P F I B C O K F P W F
I H A B E R E B H U R A W W T
P C H U N Q J G D O X M O S K
P K I T E B E U G W U A S M Z
L V I T T S P R I N G R T D Y
K L F E T L M C Q G M X J Q W
Y L P R I S N A X U M U T D I
O G J F K H N X L C P H T A O
B P L L E M K W A E Q I E U U
R X U Y F Q T S H C T E B H A
F G G D A R H S U U R E Q L I
M Z K F T E G W B T R B H E J
P U F V X P T N U Y R A O W M
I H E X C A S C D E I R F H M
Z P E L N P I D H P W O G I L

A baby cat.

A material we can make from trees.

When I cook an egg in a frying pan, it becomes a

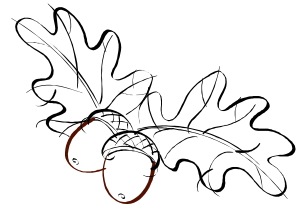
The season when daffodils start to grow.

What does a caterpillar change into?

A tadpole grows into a ...

The season when leaves turn brown and fall off the trees.

What does an acorn grow into?



A new term at school means changes as you get used to new teachers, new friends and new lessons. In the Bible Jesus promises that He will always be our friend to help us through the changes. In the book called Hebrews it says,

"Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever".

Answers: kitten, paper, fried egg, spring, butterfly, frog, autumn, oak tree

Funny, isn't it ?

Funny how a £5 note “looks” so big when you take it to church, but so small when you take it to the shopping centre.

Funny how long it takes to serve God for an hour, but how quickly a team plays 90 minutes of football.

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but don't have a trouble thinking of things to say to a friend.

Funny how we get thrilled when a football game goes into extra time, but complain when a sermon is longer than a regular time.

Funny how hard it is to read a chapter in the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a best selling novel.

Funny how people want to get a front seat at any game or concert, but scramble to get a back seat at church services.

Funny how we need 2 or 3 weeks advance notice to fit a church event into our schedule for other events at the last moment.

Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, but question what the Bible says.

Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven provided they don't have to believe, or to think, or to say, or do anything.

Funny how you can send a thousand “jokes” through e-mail and they spread like wildfire, but when you sending messages regarding Jesus, people think twice about sharing.

Funny, isn't it?
Are you laughing?
Are you thinking?

*Spread the word and give thanks to
the Lord for He is good !*

Parish Register

Baptisms

July 20 Oscar & Layton Burnham

Weddings

None

Funerals

June 12 Frederick Finlay
June 19 Aloisius Brennan-Wood
June 30 Frederick Paul
July 17 Carol Ann Blavins



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 few months

October 2014

05/10/14 Errwood Rd (from Greenend roundabout to Shawbrook Rd.),
12/10/14 Woodview Ave, & St. Helier Sq
19/10/14 Alston Gdns, Westdean Cres & Ashburn Ave
26/10/14 Burnage Lane (Green End Roundabout to Barcroft Rd.)

November 2014

02/11/14 Barnfield Rd & Oakland Ave, Carrgreen Close
9/11/14 Whitecroft Gardens. Redcroft Gardens & Ivydale Rd

16/11/14

Heathwood Rd & Angleside Ave

23/11/14

Daneholme Rd., Glenhurst Rd , & Foxwood Gdns

30/11/14

Overlea Drive

December 2014

07/12/14

Westville Gdns & Edgedale Ave

14/12/14

Southholme Gdns & Northholme Gdns

21/12/14

Holmdale Gdns, Lansdale Gdns & Eastville Gdns

28/12/14

Carrgreen Close, Moorcroft Drive, Moorcroft Walk & Brookway Close



St. Margaret's Church
Parish Centre
Burnage Lane

Harvest Celebration

Sunday 5th October 10.30am



CRAFTS, GAMES, CELEBRATION
followed by a 'Bring and Share'
LUNCH at 1pm

Messy Church is FREE and everyone is WELCOME

**Please bring harvest food donations for
Burnage Foodbank.**

For details about what to bring visit:

<http://burnage.foodbank.org.uk/get-involved>



Tuesday group, September 30th 2014, 12.30pm
Harvest Lunch, £2.50 at St Margaret's Parish Centre
Burnage Lane

Followed by Harvest thoughts in Church at 2.00pm

Please bring a harvest gift of
tins, biscuits etc.

